

Bay Area Reporter

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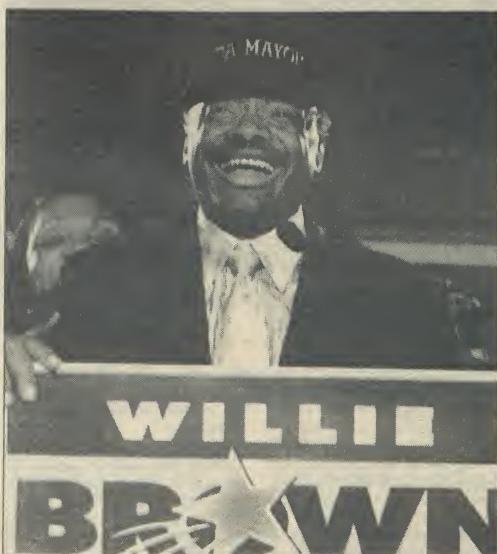


Photo: Phil Migliarise Jr.

An exultant Willie Brown basks in the cheers of his supporters Tuesday night.

Apres le Déluge: Brown Wins Big, Hallinan Defeats Fazio

by Wayne Friday

The worst downpour and windstorm in years didn't stop San Francisco voters from getting to the polls Tuesday, December 12.

By an impressive 57% to 43% margin, former state Assembly Speaker Willie Brown became the first African-American mayor of San Francisco, soundly beating incumbent Mayor Frank Jordan.

Brown, a veteran of over 30 years in the state Assembly, put together a coalition of every ethnic group in the city, receiving a large vote from the influential gay and lesbian community – including former supporters of lesbian mayoral candidate Roberta Achtenberg – and the official backing of the Democratic Party in a heavily Democratic city to easily defeat the former San Francisco police chief. Jordan ousted Mayor Art Agnos in a closely fought contest four years ago.

In the only other city race, Supervisor Terence Hallinan, long a leader in Democratic Party politics and the bearer of a respected family name, defeated for-

mer Assistant District Attorney Bill Fazio to become the city's next DA. Hallinan, who had the endorsement of current District Attorney Arlo Smith, won by a 52% to 48% majority.

Both Mayor-Elect Brown and District Attorney-Elect Hallinan will take office Monday, January 8.

Other voters, other races

Voters in the Peninsula's 15th Congressional District elected state Senator Tom Campbell, a pro-gay, pro-abortion Republican, over Democrat Jerry Estrada, a former San Jose councilmember, in a special election to fill Norm Mineta's seat. Campbell's victory margin was 23 percentage points, 59%-36%.

In the nation's only other congressional election, Democrat Jesse Jackson Jr., 30, son of the famed civil rights leader, easily won Mel Reynolds's seat over Republican opponent Thomas Somer in a special congressional election. Reynolds was forced to resign after he was convicted of having sex with a teenage female campaign worker. ▼

California Man Arrested in Double Murder of Lesbians

Also questioned in Visalia man's disappearance

by Mary Ann Swisler

A 27-year-old recently transplanted California man is being charged in last week's execution-style murder of lesbian activists Michelle Abdill, 43, and her partner Roxanna Ellis, 53, in the rural town of Medford, Oregon.

Police arrested Robert James Acremant on two counts of aggravated murder early Wednesday, December 13 at a Stockton, California Motel 6. Sergeant Mike Moran of the Medford police department said nearly 175 tips received by the department led to the arrest of the suspect, who recently moved to Oregon from Tu-

lare County, California.

An autopsy revealed that Abdill and Ellis died on Monday, December 4, although they were not located until Thursday. They had been bound, gagged, and shot at near point-blank range.

Visalia, California Police Sergeant Jim German told the B.A.R. that Acremant was also questioned two months ago about the disappearance of 23-year-old Visalia resident Scott George, who was last seen alive eating dinner at a restaurant with Acremant. German said Acremant lived in that town as a child and that his grandparents are still residents, but had no other information.

Continued on page 10



Homicide suspect
Robert James Acremant

1996 Pride Theme Chosen

by Dennis Conkin

Equality and Justice For All" has been chosen over the pro-affirmative action slogan "Catch the Beat/No Retreat" as the theme of the 1996 annual San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade and celebration.

The theme was chosen at the Sunday, December 10 general membership meeting of the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Committee, which manages the annual sexual minority freedom day parade and celebration festivities that draw more than half a million participants and observers each year.

Also under consideration as a possible theme was "Out and Equal On The Job," which was proposed by longtime labor activist Vince Quackenbush on behalf of the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance.

The winning theme was contributed by James Reid, better known around town as the Christmas Fairy.

The committee is now soliciting logo designs for the theme, with cash prizes or some sort of remuneration offered for this year's logo design.

The group also seeks an executive director to han-

die day-to-day operations, plus community volunteers to participate in the event, said Debra Oakley-Melvin, the president of the group's board of directors.

Activist Tommi Avicolli-Mecca, who pushed for "Catch the Beat/No Retreat," expressed disappointment over the choice of the theme chosen by the general membership, but said the process was fair.

"Yeah, I think it's lame," he told the Bay Area Reporter. "This is 1996 and it doesn't inspire me."

"I just don't think it's a great rallying cry to draw half a million people."

Avicolli said that the "Equality and Justice For All" theme was "something aimed toward liberals," and his preferred theme was an attempt to build affirmative action coalitions among a variety of interest groups, and would have been a valuable political organizing tool.

"But that's what I'm about. I'm just a political animal and I've never lied about that. I've always been out front that I have a political agenda," he said. ▼

For more information about the membership meetings of the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Committee, call (415) 864-FREE.



Castro Crater

The biggest hole in the Castro stunned onlookers on 15th Street near Noe. This crevasse was a result of the spectacular storm that buffeted the West Coast with high winds and heavy rains earlier this week. One onlooker described it as "looking into the bowels of the beast."

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Michael Botkin is taking the week off to celebrate Hanukkah. Queer Watch will return next week.



▼Community Dental Update▼



Richard A. Barrera

D.D.S.

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First Aid for Dental Problems

Early treatment of toothaches and other dental problems almost always prevents the problem from becoming more complex and painful and prevents the treatment from being timely and costly. Always contact your dentist as soon as possible for any dental problem so that they can assess your situation. Your dental professional can tell you what to be looking for to signal improvement or concern.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Gay Youth Join Amnesty Int'l Protest

by E.G.G. Allen

Last Sunday, December 10 a large number of gay and lesbian youth marched with approximately 100 members of Amnesty International USA through the streets of San Francisco to protest international human rights offenses in Nigeria, Colombia, Israel, Brazil, Indonesia, the Philippines, Nicaragua, Peru, and Argentina. The most disturbing report of human rights abuses, according to the marchers, came from our own hemisphere. Article 204 of the Nicaraguan Penal Code was amended on June 11, 1992 by that country's National Assembly to read in part, "Anyone who induces, promotes, propagandizes or practices in scandalous form sexual intercourse between persons of the same sex commits the crime of sodomy and shall incur one to three years' imprisonment."

According to Amnesty's press release, "The language used in this Article is so broad that Amnesty International fears it will be used to prosecute individuals solely for their homosexuality, in-



Photo: E.G.G. Allen

cluding those who engage in homosexual acts in private between consenting adults. Persons so imprisoned would be considered Prisoners of Conscience by AI."

Sky Alexzander, a member of Amnesty International's Gay/Lesbian Concerns, stated that "The Nicaraguan Supreme Court declared sodomy a threat to the holy institution of matrimony; that to authorize its free practice would

be a legal attack upon the Nicaraguan population, a set-back to its political and economic advancement."

Amnesty International's members of Gay/Lesbian Concerns are worried that because of Nicaragua's numerous human rights violations, Article 204 would condemn thousands of gays and lesbians to rape, torture, and death. ▼

Rohana's Med Bills Keep Mounting

by Kent Brandley

Last Wednesday, December 13, the television program *Final Justice* took another look at the near-fatal attack on San Francisco gay man Victor Rohana, for holding hands with a male friend last year.

It was the second airing of the *Final Justice* sequence, with slight revision; the first showing resulted in hundreds of tips, according to a spokesman. This one conceivably might aid in an arrest, authorities hope.

The incident began when Rohana and his friend Steven Damron left a Market Street restaurant at about 10 p.m. October 28, 1994. Two men in a white 88 or 89 Suzuki Samurai mini-jeep who observed the couple began to follow and taunt them.

Rohana told the *Bay Area Reporter* he recalls the Samurai driving onto the sidewalk at Waller Street and pinning him against a wall as one of the men brandished a handgun and shouted, "You fuckin' faggot!"

When the man opened fire it cost Rohana his spleen and one quarter of his left lung; he has since given up smoking.

His stomach was also severely damaged, with three holes left in it.

Ironically, Rohana lived in Beirut at the age of 11, but suffered no injury there, he told the *B.A.R.* Now he still suffers the physical effects of that walk up Market Street 14 months ago: he said he passed out on a Muni bus two weeks ago when waves of pain overwhelmed him.

On average, the pain returns about every two months, he said, adding, "My doctor says I'm overdoing it."

Rohana now works as an ice skating instructor at the Dorothy Hamill Ice Skating Rink near the Ferry Building on the Embarcadero.

Rohana said he is appreciative of the attention he has gotten from *Final Justice*, but for now he has



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

The site at Market and Waller where Rohana was shot.

an even more pressing concern than finding the men who shot him. He says collection agencies are driving him up the wall for payment on his medical bills, and he wonders what happened to the help he was widely promised more than a year ago.

Rohana said his medical bills have exceeded \$90,000 to date. The city's "Victim Witness" program paid \$46,000 of the expenses, but that still leaves him owing about \$45,000. Martina James, a teller at Cal Federal on Castro, confirmed the Rohana Fund Account set up in the wake of the shooting is still open. However, she said, "No funds have been received in a long time." Rohana told the *B.A.R.* he received about \$300 in contributions from the gay community after his case was publicized.

Lately a Santa Rosa collection agency has been particularly obnoxious in trying to get payment for some medical bills, Rohana told the *B.A.R.*, with the caller allegedly telling him, "I don't believe you got shot."

"He was very rude, calling my house," Rohana said. "I can't sleep at night just thinking about it."

He added that Mayor Jordan "said he would see his hospital bills were taken care of. Two

months later I went in and they said I was too late: 'Where have you been?'

"I was dying."

Robert Oakes, the mayor's gay liaison, said the care Rohana received at San Francisco General Hospital saved his life, and the city did foot that bill. "We have done everything we can to solve the crime and to take care of him at San Francisco General without cost," Oakes said. "We are not able to take care of private hospital bills."

Rohana, who worked as a model before the shooting incident, underwent expensive and painful cosmetic surgery on his scarred abdominal muscles in a Venezuelan hospital.

Oakes said Jordan has been totally supportive of Rohana, including taking the time to make an appearance on national television, and reiterated that a \$20,000 reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of the assailant is still in effect. ▼

For more information about the Victor Rohana Fund, c/o Castro Cal Federal Branch, 440 Castro, San Francisco 94114, call Martina James at (415) 861-3161.



Photo Phil Migliarese Jr.

Christmas Cheer

Ken Prag (left) samples one of four wines proffered at Holly Daze in Under One Roof, 2362 Market Street, Dec. 12. Leslie Doumani (center) and Sylvia Stewart-Legall poured spirits at the event co-hosted by restaurants and wineries featured in the 1996 Caloric Daze Engagement Calendar. One hundred percent of the profits from the wine sales went to Food for Thought's HIV Network.

Board of Supes Rejects District Election Proposals

by Dennis Conkin

Plans to alter district elections will have to wait until the select committee appointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors revisits the issue, according to a Monday, December 11 board vote.

The surprise rejection of eagerly awaited recommendations on alternative methods to electing supervisors came in a tie 5-5 vote, with Supervisor Willie Kennedy, who supports district elections, absent.

The measure needed one more vote to make it to the March ballot.

The Election Task Force was mandated by voters, to recommend alternatives to the current method of at-large elections currently used to elect supervisors.

Supervisors Susan Leal, Carole Migden, Mable Teng, Sue Bierman, and Barbara Kaufman voted against the measure.

The Task Force, led by Leal appointee and lesbian activist Gwenn Craig, had proposed four alternatives to the current method,

including a proposal for five districts of about 144,000 with three supervisors from each district — which would increase the number of supervisors to 15.

Other suggestions included 11 districts, with one supervisor from each 65,000-person district; an 11 district cumulative voting system, which would let voters cast 11 votes for one supervisor or distribute their votes any way they wished; and a preference-ranked system, which would allow people to cast their votes in order of preference.

Although Leal told the *Bay Area Reporter* she appreciated the group's efforts, she believed voters would have been left with a plethora of unclear and confusing choices. She believes the proposals should be pared down to just one or two alternatives, in addition to the current method used.

Both Leal and Migden also expressed concern that district boundaries of some of the proposals would weaken gay and lesbian — and other minority — voting bloc power.

High Hopes May Be Dashed...

Pot Petitions Get Trashed

by Dennis Conkin

A typographical snafu has forced the withdrawal of thousands of medical marijuana ballot initiative petitions that have been circulated by Californians for Compassionate Use, and the printing of an estimated 100,000 new petitions for distribution.

The first circulated petitions were rejected by the San Francisco Registrar of Voters because they did not conform to California elections code guidelines that required that a summary of the proposed ballot initiative be printed in boldface type.

"We remain optimistic the current campaign to allow ill people with AIDS and other diseases, legal and medical access to mari-

juana will succeed. We hope all invalid petitions can be recalled," said CCU treasurer Scott Imler.

In addition to the correct typeface on the petitions, the correct petitions also are imprinted with a union label.

It is unclear whether CCU will go to court to ask that an estimated 15,000 signatures on incorrect petitions be ruled acceptable to place the measure on the ballot. ▼

Computer users may download a usable copy of the Compassionate Use Initiative petition at www.medicalmarijuana.org, sign it in blue or black ink, and send it to the address indicated on the petition.

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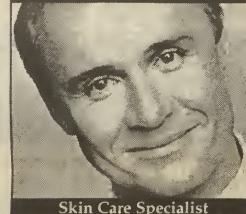
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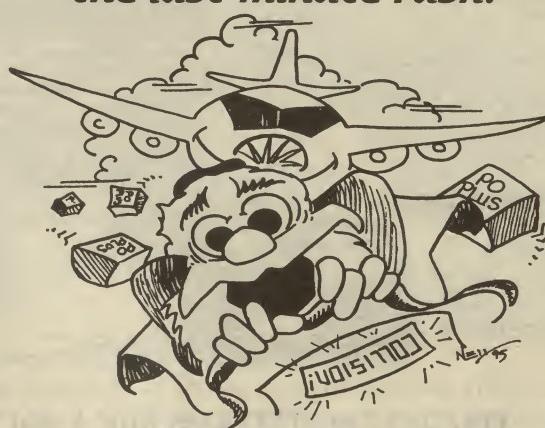
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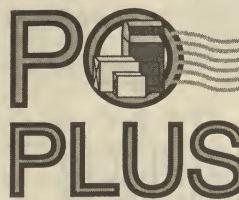


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COMMUNITY NEWS

KQED: Gay Man in Focus

by Dennis Conkin

John Boland, an openly gay man with a quarter of a century's worth of experience in the publishing, advertising, and marketing fields, has been named publisher of *San Francisco Focus Magazine*, which is published by KQED, Inc.

Boland joined *Focus* – which is part of the non-profit media corporation's publishing and new ventures division – as associate publisher and advertising director last April. He is the former publisher of the Sonoma County *Independent*, which he purchased in 1989 with his lover of 13 years, James Carroll.

Under Boland and Carroll's direction, the newspaper grew into the largest weekly in Sonoma County and received numerous regional, state, and national journalism honors.

"I've been in the business since I was 18. I think I like being a publisher best," Boland told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "You're involved in all aspects of the publication."

Boland began his publishing career as an 18-year-old reporter for the Morristown, New Jersey *Daily Record* while a college student – and quickly assumed management editorial, advertising, and circulation responsibilities. He left the paper in 1975 to become gen-



Photo: Gregory H. Fischer

Focus publisher Boland will try to boost the magazine's circulation.

eral manager of Daradanell Publications, a chain of 13 weekly newspapers in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area.

Before he came to San Francisco, he was senior vice resident and deputy director of marketing communications at Hill and Knowlton, the public relations subsidiary of J. Walter Thompson agency.

Boland is a member of the board of directors of Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group in the Castro and is active with the Human Rights Campaign.

With a monthly readership of more than half a million, according to a Media Audit survey, *San Francisco Focus* has been honored with more journalism and design awards than any other city or regional magazine in the nation.

"Focus has a reputation for excellent journalism, but also for our arts and restaurant coverage," Boland said.

Boland said that part of his

focus as publisher would be to increase circulation of the magazine, which has just over 162,000 subscribers – surprisingly concentrated in the Alameda and Santa Clara Counties.

One of the ways in which *Focus* will do that will be to try to draw younger readers, who may be familiar with public television and KQED – but who do not subscribe to the television station or *Focus*.

"We are doing that by seeking young writers and fresh ideas. We use so many freelancers that it's very doable," Boland said. "And one way to reach younger readers is by increasing newsstand sales."

With the expansion of KQED's publishing division, which includes videos as well as books, *Focus* "needed a full-time publisher to handle day-to-day operations," said Mark Powellson, the corporation's vice president of publishing and new ventures. ▼

Gay Islanders Give Alameda High Schools Biotech Equipment

by Mary Ann Swissler

The same kind of scientific equipment used by biotechnology research laboratories around the country will be donated this week to the city of Alameda's two public high schools, as a result of a \$5,000 donation made by the Alameda-based group The Gay Islanders.

Morten Wellhaven, co-founder of the gay fraternal organization and an Alameda resident, explained, "It's the same high quality products that are used by Genentech, the National Institutes of Health, and others." He added, "Approximately 10 to 20 percent of gay couples are parents, and they are concerned with good scientific education."

Wellhaven is president of United Scientific Products, which makes and distributes biotechnology equipment. Last July, he

threatened the Alameda city government with a negative public relations campaign when the city council refused to issue a Gay Pride Month proclamation. He has since formed The Gay Islanders and been active in Out On The Island, a civic and political organizing group made up of gay and lesbian Alamedans.

The scientific equipment will be distributed between Encinal High School and Alameda High School. Christine Allen, whose children attend city schools, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "Morten's donation directly affects the education of youth in Alameda, a priority for most Alameda residents. Many of us have children in Alameda schools."

"As parents we are deeply grateful to United Scientific Products, and to the Gay Islanders, for their gift to our kids." ▼

A Big Deal in the Cards for AmFAR This Year?

Together for the Cure, sponsored by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), will send personalized greeting cards to inform the friends, family members, and business associates of \$1,000 donors that a donation has been made in their name.

The designs of Robert Rauschenberg, Milton Glaser, and other well-known artists will be featured on the front of the cards.

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– Mary Ann Swissler

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Supes Make Salvation Army Explain Anti-Gay Letter

Ammiano: 'Rhetoric Cancels Any Good Work They Do'

by Dennis Conkin

A November 30 letter printed in the *Bay Area Reporter* may cost the Salvation Army tens of thousands of dollars in city contracts, after the entire San Francisco Board of Supervisors agreed to demand an explanation of the group's anti-gay rhetoric before it approves the expenditure of the city funds.

By a 10-0 vote, the board approved a request by Supervisor Tom Ammiano on Monday, December 11 to withhold the approval of a contract for services that would give an estimated \$55,000 in food service contracts for indigent people to the Salvation Army, until it hears the matter at its January 2 board meeting.

In a fiery blast at the group's anti-gay rhetoric, Ammiano drew a link between the Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts, and accused the group of "rhetoric which fosters a climate of hate" that leads to anti-gay violence.

"As long as they engage in this unmitigated and dehumanizing hate rhetoric, they cancel out any of the good work they do," Ammiano said.

Ammiano also accused local Salvation Army leaders of "double speak" — and said they share responsibility for the religious group's "tacit institutional approval" of homophobia.

The flap began with a November 30 letter by Salvation Army administrative officer Captain Samuel Southard, who was responding to widespread criticism of the group's anti-gay policies.

In the controversial letter, Southard said that homosexuals "needed help and understanding" — but stressed that homosexual behavior, "like any deviant behavior, is capable of control" and said homosexuals who "are unable to develop mature heterosexual relationships can be helped by medical advice and/or psychiatric treatment, pastoral counseling" and by conversion to Christianity.

On Wednesday, December 13 Salvation Army Major Jerry Gaines, the group's divisional commander, repudiated Southard's letter, saying that it was sent without approval or review of Army public relations personnel.

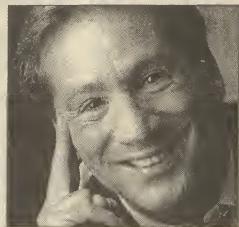
Captain Southard's letter was wrong in that it inaccurately confuses the social mission of the Salvation Army with what we see as internal religious beliefs. This was inappropriate and offensive not only to the lesbian and gay community, but to many," Gaines said.

Gaines also said that like a number of religious groups, the Salvation Army has positions on "a number of issues" used for spiritual guidance — but the group does not impose those views or practices on people outside the organization.

"Our mission is to serve humanity, without discrimination or judgment. In San Francisco, we are dedicated to serving all segments of our community, including gays and lesbians," Gaines said.

Gaines enumerated the services provided to people with HIV and AIDS by the agency — which provides shelter, alcohol rehabilitation, emergency housing, food programs, and other social services to homeless and low-income residents.

Ammiano dismissed Gaines's letter to the board as "a nice fax" and said that he "could not in good



Tom Ammiano

speech.

Supervisor Carole Migden immediately seconded Ammiano's request to delay the vote on the passage of the expenditure until the matter was addressed by the entire board.

"I share Supervisor Ammiano's great concern about the damaging message which has been sent out," Migden said.

The incident is the latest in a series involving the Salvation Army, which is the second largest social service provider in Northern California.

In an earlier incident, the Salvation Army indicated it would turn down city funds rather than be required to house a homeless lesbian couple with children in its emergency family shelter.

Numerous AIDS services, lesbian and gay, and other non-profit organizations are often placed in catch-22 situations with the group:

while they believe the Salvation Army's religious beliefs and policies are reprehensible, they feel they must refer indigent and low-income clients to the Salvation Army's free, easily accessed, and emergency-based services.

City regulations require the group not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in services provided by city contracts. ▼

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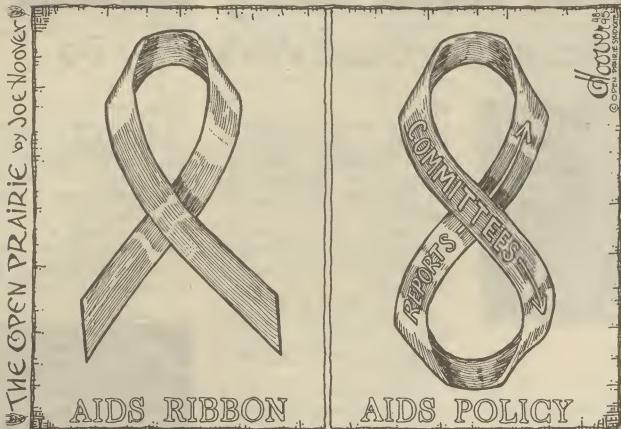
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OPEN FORUM

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JOE HOOVER**GUEST OPINION****The Gift of Financial Planning**

by Harold L. Lustig CLU, ChFC

The holidays are a time when we select meaningful gifts for those we love, and make resolutions to accomplish important tasks. Both reasons make this season a natural time for people to concentrate on their financial situations.

There's so much at stake for gays and lesbians who don't plan ahead: running out of money, loss of rights, intrusive relatives, offensive employers and ex-lovers, and an indifferent government. What happens when you don't plan openly with commitment? Consider the tragedy of Bob and Bill—a tragedy that could have been avoided.

Bill and Bob lived together for many years and acquired substantial assets, including retirement savings, a mutual fund portfolio, and jointly-owned house. They also had a "will substitute" and didn't need an attorney.

Then, tragically, Bob was hit by a drunk driver as he left the office one evening. The couple's anxious friends, gathering to give comfort and aid, asked Bill about the "estate."

"No problem," said Bill, "all is well in that area."

The next day he began to find out how wrong he was. The hospital wouldn't let him in to say good-bye before Bob died. "Sorry, you're not family," the hospital spokesperson said.

Bob's parents, who until then had been polite, arranged with the hospital that Bob's body would be released to them. They told Bill they decided to have him buried in a far-off state, even though Bob had wanted cremation. Bill couldn't even visit his lover's grave. When Bill went to the funeral home he found out that he wasn't "family." Bill had no legal right to have any say in the funeral. He knew Bob would hate the funeral—the eulogy made no mention of the most important fact of Bob's life.

The day after the funeral Bob's family showed up with the police to get Bob's clothing, jewelry, and car—which Bill and Bob shared, but Bob owned—and the bedroom and dining room sets the couple bought together, but which Bob, who had the higher paying job, signed for.

As if that wasn't enough, they took Bob's investments, which Bill and Bob planned to share together.

Is all of this avoidable? Yes! Is it hard to do? No, but you must take the first step! Asking the questions now is so much less painful than later. And planning ahead can be fun, as it's an opportunity to visualize your dreams and take action.

The place to start is with a comprehensive financial and estate plan. The planning process helps identify your goals and concerns. Think of the plan as a diagnosis of the strengths and weaknesses of where you are today, financially, versus where you want to go. Implementation includes at least the following:

- Designate a beneficiary—Not all insurance companies allow unmarried couples to name their partner as beneficiary. Review this area and make sure the beneficiary designation is what you want.
- Develop an Estate Plan—Gay and lesbian couples exercise the most denial in this area. Don't. See an attorney who works with unmarried couples, and be sure the following areas are documented: 1. Living will and healthcare instructions; 2. Durable power of attorney—who will act in your behalf if you are incapacitated; 3. Living trust—avoids tremendous probate expense; 4. Will—should be clear and current.

- Long Term Care Insurance and Disability Insurance—Where will the money come from if you are ill or incapacitated? Disability insurance helps pay for living expenses, food, transportation, alternative healthcare, fun, etc. Long Term Care insurance pays for nursing care because Medicare, Medi-Cal, major medical, and disability insurance do not.

- Life Insurance with Accelerated Benefits—Accelerated benefits will pay cash if you are terminally ill. Viatical settlement companies may pay you for your insurance if you are terminally ill. Some life insurance companies may sell you insurance if you are HIV-positive but have not been treated for AIDS or ARC.

- Plan for retirement and organize your investments for greatest tax advantage.
- Determine who owns what, and document everything with legally drawn Certificates of Ownership.

The most important rule is to get professional help and do it now! ▼

Harold L. Lustig has been a financial planner for over 16 years. He is a financial advisor with American Express Financial Advisors Inc., and can be reached at (415) 288-7330.

EDITORIAL**'Tis The Season...**

First a tumultuous election, then the winter holidays: what a lot of exchanging is going on this December!

The traditional cycle of electing our officials isn't very different from the Christmas/Hanukkah/Winter Solstice/Kwanzaa phenomena, if you think about it: both involve lots of wishing, hinting, and planning, followed by a certain amount of scrambling, settling, and hoping the wrapping is nice enough.

San Francisco voters gave themselves two new presents, Mayor-Elect Willie Brown and District Attorney-Elect Terence Hallinan, on Tuesday. What is even more important is that we gave ourselves another big helping of democracy, which goes a long way toward battling the feeling of powerlessness that sometimes breaks through (particularly around the time of the holidays). The persistence of those voters, considering the weather that smashed windows and uprooted trees all over town that morning—we hear it also blew the Civic Center ARC/AIDS Vigil away—was something we can all feel proud about. This is obviously a city that has the enduring love of its citizens.

Of course, any city without its residents is just a collection of architecture; San Francisco is what it is because of San Franciscans, and not the other way around. Together we shape it, move it, nurture it, and help to create and recreate its wonders. That did not change in the election, nor should it. We still have the same obligations, to care very deeply about the city and its future direction, that we have always had.

Mayor-Elect Brown spoke very persuasively in his victory speech about repairing the rifts that have developed during the campaigns. His vow to start the healing process was a noble gesture, and absolutely necessary. Mayor Jordan made the same point to his supporters as he acknowledged his defeat.

Now it is up to their supporters—

all of us—to make sure the election doesn't drag on forever and get in the way of the city's ability to operate. Which is not to say either Brown or Hallinan will be free from scrutiny as they do their jobs, but it is a plea to anyone bitter about any candidate's defeat to get on with the important matters at hand.

For those who are unable to do that, and who may feel compelled to sulk, whine, or bluster, we can only suggest that kind of behavior is best practiced alone in the dark. Please spare the rest of us.

And now that the election is done, the holidays (as Dorothy Parker put it) are at our throats again.

The gift-purchasing situation isn't helped much by this weather, so we have a suggestion for those who don't want to get waterlogged and fleeced as they shop. Give the gift of compassion.

Every year we, too, get that mountain of catalogues from which to shop at home, but the more we look at the available items, the more we resolve to let everyone on our list know that a contribution has been made in their names.

The advantages, besides the one about the weather, are both great (nothing else comes close to the way this makes your family perceive you as an adult) and small (nobody charges you seven bucks for shipping a twelve dollar item). And the best part is indescribable; if you want to feel the special warmth that envelopes cheerful givers, you have to be one.

There are organizations to fit every person, including gay youth and gay seniors; lesbians; people with AIDS; gay veterans; gay families; and far too many others to catalogue here.

So to our friends and family reading this: try to look surprised when that's what you get. And even if what you really really wanted was a rainbow candle or that T-shirt of Neely O'Hara, try to look happy anyway.

This is the season of peace, harmony, and healing. ▼

LETTERS

Outstanding leadership

If Philip Babcock, a fellow member of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, had any first hand knowledge of Supervisor Carole Migden, he would have written a very different letter to the B.A.R.

He himself has only "heard stories" regarding Supervisor Migden from people who cannot move away from their bitterness that their choice for mayor did not succeed in November, particularly people like Paul Melbostad who embarrassingly yelled and screamed during a part of the Milk/Moscone Memorial March speeches.

Babcock claims that Supervisor Migden deserves criticism from the African-American community. The reality is that she has received enthusiastic support from the African-American community for her Assembly bid. Further, as far as her relationship with organized labor, all of the local SEIU Unions including 790, 250 and 535 have endorsed her candidacy along with the Teamsters, Machinists, the Health Care Workers, Teachers, Firefighters, Hotel Employees and others who support Supervisor Migden as a vote for working people and their interests in Sacramento.

A review of the supervisor's voting record, rather than dishy gossip from second and third hand sources, would go a long way toward educating readers about Supervisor Migden's outstanding leadership and accomplishments.

Jim Prevo
Harvey Milk Club Member
San Francisco

A seat at the table

I am troubled by some of the comments in the *Bay Area Reporter* blaming Carole Migden for the defeat of Roberta Achtenberg.

Many of us looked at the mutual support of Willie Brown and Carole Migden for their respective offices as a once in a lifetime opportunity to establish an enduring, cooperative relationship between the African-American and the lesbian and gay communities.

This election fulfills the dream of Harvey Milk and what so many other leaders have fought for over the years: a seat at the table. Willie Brown didn't just give us lip service; he wholeheartedly endorsed lesbian Supervisor Carole Migden to succeed him in the Assembly. Migden recognized early on, long before Achtenberg ever reappeared to launch her campaign for mayor, the benefits of Willie Brown as mayor. Imagine the benefits we'll reap from that relationship when it comes to funding vital health care programs or preventing anti-gay legislation from passing in the increasingly conservative Assembly.

This is an opportunity we can't afford to lose because of a few small-minded obstructionists.

J. Eberhardt
San Francisco

Race and media

I must respond to Rob Michaels' letter to the editor on November 30, 1995:

I do not "presume" that white America is outraged only because a black man had been accused of killing a white woman. I asked what role did race play in the depth of that outrage. Considering some of what I've read in the media, I think this is a fair question. For example, one Jewish writer, when expressing his pain from OJ's acquittal, referred to Ron Goldman as "one of our own."

OJ thought he "transcended" color, so how did the murders become race issues? Why wasn't OJ just a person accused of killing two people? Almost from the beginning of the whole madness, the mainstream media made OJ a black man accused of killing his beautiful blonde (white) wife. He became a black man addicted to white women. OJ became a black American hero who "transcended" color. One newsmagazine even darkened his picture for its cover.

The mainstream media - not Mark Fuhrman or Johnny Cochran - seemed to make the whole trial a black v. white battle from its beginning. And when the verdict was read, the media highlighted black people rejoicing victoriously and white people crying. It did not show my co-worker, an older white woman, cheering the verdict. It did not show my friend, a black man, calling me five minutes later enraged by the verdict.

Now there's a white backlash. It's obvious to anyone listening to talk radio the notion of black people as half-savage and half-child never died in America. This is both ignorant and disrespectful.

Suggesting that we simply forgive and forget such insults is no better than suggesting we simply forgive and forget the murders of Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman.

Kheven Lee LaGrone
Oakland

Compassionate care at Kaiser

On World AIDS Day I watched as ACT UP/Golden Gate told a small group assembled in front of Kaiser hospital that Kaiser Permanente does not care about the health of its members with AIDS. They told us that Kaiser Permanente is contributing to the death of AIDS patients because they do not provide tests that are not FDA approved, that they do not provide treatments that have not been shown to prolong life, and that they limit access to health care providers.

I could not listen for long because I was running late from seeing several of my AIDS patients that morning. Some of these patients were stable, but others were approaching their next crisis. I also had to hurry because I had several AIDS patients in the hospital to see before I returned to my office for my afternoon schedule, to which two additional AIDS patients had already been added.

ACT UP/Golden Gate was telling this crowd that I am doing a poor job.

As a medical practitioner, I have been forced to sift through myriad of medical information about HIV. Information that at times can come from greedy pharmaceutical companies interested in pleasing Wall Street, or biased scientists who need to renew a grant application, or fanatical activists who have never taken the oath "above all else, do no harm." I have had to formulate a care plan for my AIDS patients based on my knowledge, my compassion, my clinical experience, and the experience of other practitioners. But at no time has "Dr. Kaiser Permanente" told me how I can or cannot practice medicine.

As a gay man and a physician I have watched the greatest medical scourge in recent history destroy hopes, dreams and lives of patients and friends. I am somewhat consoled in knowing that each day I work with other healthcare providers at Kaiser Permanente who are dedicated to the delivery of compassionate, informed care to our members with AIDS. I long for the day when I can say to my patients, "This treatment will keep you healthy and extend your life." But until that day I will have to cope and continue to the best job I can, despite what ACT UP/Golden Gate tells me.

Michael J. Pawlik, MD
Department of Medicine
The Permanente Medical Group,
San Francisco

[The editor responds: Funny, we thought ACT UP (plus, of course, those other wild-eyed radicals who took time to demonstrate, like the California Nurses Association) said Kaiser does a shitty job, not you. Specifically, as we understood it, their beef was with Kaiser bean counters who care more about the price of tests than their value, and who make the big decisions.]

Use a filter

It's a pity that the recent ACT UP/Golden Gate Writers Pool's article "Crypto: Unsafe at Any Level" was simply a rehash of previous stuff we already know about. Their solution for those dealing with HIV is that they should boil their water before it is consumed. Yes, that is one solution for drinking pure water; however, people with HIV do not wash their vegetables or fruit in boiled water. And nowhere in the article was there a mention of the water filters one can buy which specifically state on their packaging that they filter out the micro organisms which can cause crypto. There was an article about these filters sometime this past summer in the B.A.R.

If ACT UP really wants to do something constructive about Crypto they should get after the restaurants and bars in the city, particularly the ones which target queer money, to buy these filters to use in their water glasses, drinks, and ice cubes, and in washing their veggies and fruits.

Jay Hoffman
San Francisco

Remembering Robert Chesley

This year is the five-year anniversary of the death of my friend gay playwright Robert Chesley. Another of his good friends and I would like to get together with other people who knew and loved Robert, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 21, to meet, schmooze, celebrate and listen to some sexual readings, things Robert would have appreciated.

If you knew Robert, had sex with Robert, did fantasy spandex play with Robert, acted in or worked on one of Robert's plays (*Stray Dog Story, Nocturnes, Nightsweat, Jerker, Dog Plays*), jerked off in the Y steam room with Robert or just loved Robert in some other way I haven't mentioned, please come join us. You can leave a message for me at 415-292-3223.

Mark I. Chester
San Francisco

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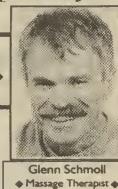
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LETTERS

Spare us your Salvation

The Salvation Army's Captain Sothard's letter about the "Army's" position on homosexuality is not surprising. Any organization that banks its faith in the unbelievable, though clever celestial swindle of "original sin," would theorize that homosexuality threatens society and the family with no corroborating evidence.

The Salvation Army places its rationality of faith on a mighty tome which miscalculates the age of the four to five million (or is it *billion*) year-old universe to be a mere *five thousand* years old or so; "to err big is human," and apparently Godly?

The threat of Hell and the reward of Heaven is morally, intellectually, logically and spiritually bankrupt, and has not worked, unless perhaps you compare its results with the Salvation Army's Heterosexual Reintroduction Program.

Perhaps so-called Christians one day will become more Jesuslike in tolerance, acceptance, and forgiveness of natural human differences, and get on about making society more cordial to its minority members. I pray so. In the meanwhile, I appreciate Sothard reminding us that our seasonal generosity can be channeled into more positive, progressive and humane organizations and agencies than that of the so-called "Salvation" Army.

Say, do those annoying bells violate the city's anti-noise ordinance, anyway?

**Rand Knox
San Rafael, CA**

Amusing, less amusing

I'd like to thank the B.A.R. for providing us readers with such an amusing bit of unintentional irony in your November 30 edition. In your article on the Milk/Moscone Candlelight March, you strongly imply that Willie Brown exploited the march for the sake of his own agenda. (In your editorial, you come right out and say that he did so.) That, of course, would be in stark contrast with how you treated the march. It was fascinating to read a "story about the march" that contained so little information about the march itself, and absolutely nothing about the enduring memories of the men it honored. Lots about Willie, nothing about Harvey!

**Steve Omlid
San Francisco**

[Anyone who knew Harvey knows he'd have been furious if we'd done it the other way around.]

Defending the critic

I am writing to respond to Ms. Haddock's letter ("Unkindest cut?" 11/30). First and foremost, I would like to thank you for having such an incredible writer as Ms. Peifer work for your paper. After reading Ms. Haddock's comments and Ms. Peifer's latest review of Sister O'Marie's "mystery," I decided to take up the defense of the critic (let's all be shocked together).

Not only are her book reviews on target and cut to the crux of the novel, they are usually a pure joy to read, especially the scathing reviews. Ms. Peifer's humor, wit, and references bring more life to such dreadful literature (dare one call it that) than most authors can manage. She is always insightful and right. I cannot think of a novel I've read in which I have disagreed with her commentary. I have come to trust her opinion. This, I think, is rare in a reviewer of the arts.

Unfortunately, such kind things cannot be said about Ms. Haddock. Nothing is more annoying than to hear a member of an artistic community whine incessantly about why she should be given some slack about her work. Criticism, as she says, "come(s) with the territory," but Ms. Haddock is unwilling to take hers like a professional. Instead, she feels it is necessary to tell the world how put-upon she is for writing with a small publishing house, for holding down extra jobs to support her scribbling, and for struggling to bring those stories she deems utterly important to the queer community. I can only respond by saying get over it. Many artists hold several jobs and continue to create exquisitely. If she is unwilling to take the responsibility (which she reprimands Ms. Peifer for shirking) of being a dedicated artist seriously, she should consider going full-time with one of her "other jobs."

As a recent transplant to San Francisco, I first read Ms. Peifer's writings four years ago while on holiday. Since then, I have read her faithfully. My sole reason for picking up the B.A.R. in my previous city was for her reviews. We had an established queer paper which reported much the same news but unfortunately did not have Ms. Peifer's critical talent.

In short, Ms. Peifer is fabulous!! Give her a raise and some really awful books to read, because we all could use a good laugh.

**Ernest Meyer
San Francisco**

The Rankin File

Your coverage of the White House HIV/AIDS conference [in last week's B.A.R.] was interesting. Not accurate. Not objective. Just — well — interesting.

They say in Washington that if the entire editorial staff of Reverend Moon's *Washington Times* saw Bill Clinton walk on water across the Potomac, the headline would read, "Clinton Can't Swim!" I'm afraid the B.A.R. reporting has been about as objective. And that's sad.

There is very little good news coming out of Washington these days. When there is a bit, you're letting our community down not to report it, or to report it in such a distorted way. It denies hope to people who desperately need it. Say what you like in your editorials — but keep the general reporting honest.

**Mike Rankin, M.D.
Member, Presidential Advisory Council on
HIV/AIDS, San Francisco**

[Editor's note: Dr. Rankin's first-hand report from the conference appears in this issue on page 15.]

A violent man's violent words

[The following letter was sent to the S.F. Examiner and the Christian Broadcasting Network:]

Gene Kapp of the Christian Broadcasting Network says that Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) "grossly distort and misrepresent the views of (Pat) Robertson" (*Examiner*, letters, 11/29) in our television ad campaign. He says we quote Mr. Robertson out of context by leaving out Mr. Robertson's words, "You love the person."

Well, Mr. Kapp, as the mother of a gay son and a member of PFLAG, I'm afraid you can't have it both ways.

You can't tell a gay or lesbian child that you love them and then say they are an "abomination," "apalling," and associates of Hitler and Satan. I'm sure Mr. Kapp and Mr. Robertson will agree that the child will be a bit confused. You cannot call a child a sinner. You cannot say that what they do is a "pathology," a "sickness," and expect them to feel love. Homosexuality is not a sin and our children are not sinners.

What Mr. Kapp cannot describe in a letter to the editor is the extreme hatred in Pat Robertson's face when he says that the "practices of these people is appalling," or when he says, "Homosexuality is an abomination." This is a violent man speaking these words, no matter how many times he uses the word "love." These are violent words no matter how many times Mr. Robertson says the word "love" following them. These words alone hurt our children and incite others to violence. This is what Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has attempted to say in their ads.

**Laura Siegel
Pacifica, CA**

The drug bust business

What a waste of time, money and young lives. Twenty-one arrests, from four high schools, using two of S.F.P.D.'s finest for almost three months? I would say the taxpayers of San Francisco got stung, as well.

On a good day, 21 arrests could be made in the Polk Gulch area, the Tenderloin, the Mission, or Civic Center/U.N. Plaza. Or even Turk, and Leavenworth or Eddy, and Mason streets would qualify for busting drug dealers.

The difference in these places is that crystal meth and LSD are sold 50 times, and marijuana hundreds of times a day. If the police worked these areas for ten weeks, there wouldn't be as many selling as there are, and we wouldn't need as many cops.

But that's part of the game of the drug business and cop business getting along and perpetuating themselves. Without the addicts, we wouldn't have dealers. And without the dealers, we wouldn't need as many police officers, sheriff's deputies, judges or jails and prisons. And the people involved in arresting and incarcerating these people make a lot of money.

And the petty nature of the marijuana arrests when half the world is out trying to legalize it. Are these kids supposed to take their rap just before it is?

Major violent crimes are going on while the Narcotics Division has officers luring minors into conflict with the law. Adults should not be buying drugs from minors or tempting them to sell them. How can these officers have any pride in what they did? Serve and protect? I think not!

No doubt those young people have been replaced by others. As usual, it was more appropriate for whatever strokes the Narcotics Division needed to mention the arrests. How about education and counseling for those (high school students) that were buying? Probably not!

**Wayne Smith, Chair
SF Town Hall HIV Task Force**

Washington Exodus

When Colorado's popular pro-gay Congresswoman Pat Schroeder announced last week she was retiring after 24 years in the House, she joined a "rush from Congress" not seen in decades. As of this date, no fewer than a dozen senators and a dozen and a half House members from both parties have announced they have decided against seeking re-election next year. Furthermore, Capitol Hill sources predict that perhaps a dozen more will make similar announcements shortly after the first of the year.

Commentary

While the current 104th Congress includes three openly gay members, two of them, Massachusetts' Gerry Studds (D) and Wisconsin's Steve Gunderson (R), have announced they are retiring at the end of next year. There are, however, six openly gay candidates who are given at least an even chance of winning seats in the November 1996 general election. These candidates (all men) seeking House seats for the first time are Richard Zbur, 38, a lawyer from Long Beach, given an excellent chance of unseating a veteran Republican in that race; Dale Hollowell, 47, a state senator from Maine; Eric Resnick, 32, a social worker from Canton, Ohio; David Koontz, 31, of Frederick, Maryland; and Patrick Baikauskas, 43, the only Republican of the group, from Springfield, Illinois.

Meanwhile, longtime senate members, such as New Jersey's Bill Bradley, Illinois's Paul Simon, Oregon's Mark Hatfield, and Georgia's Sam Nunn, have led the flight from the Beltway, and their retirements, along with the many others, promises a new face for the 105th Congress in January 1997. For many, particularly the Democrats, their leaving was helped along by their party's losing control of both houses of Congress; for others, such as Schroeder, the "long hours and less satisfaction" of not being able to "make a difference" any longer was the main problem. While D.C. political analysts will tell you that Democratic control of the House after the November 1996 election is "not impossible," it is unlikely, and even the re-election of President Clinton would not make serving in either the Senate or the House much fun for a dedicated Democrat under Newt Gingrich and Company.

Politics and people

Speaking of unhappy members of Congress, one well-heeled checkbook Democrat told me the other evening that he had received a call from state Controller Kathleen Connell seeking support for a possible gubernatorial run against Gray Davis in 1998. He told her to call back another day — seems he had already received word from someone close to Senator Dianne Feinstein that she is seriously thinking of leaving the GOP-controlled Congress behind and might be talked into another run for governor.

An embarrassment of Gingriches: Candace Gingrich, the newest "star" of the gay rights movement and lesbian half-sister of the Newster, makes her acting debut January 18 on the hit NBC sitcom *Friends*, playing a minister officiating at a lesbian wedding. Ms. Gingrich, the former UPS



My three sons: Mayor Frank Jordan, surrounded by his children, turns toward Jim Jordan after his concession speech Tuesday night.

worker, won the role after meeting some cast members at a gay rights fundraiser.

In Key West, over 200 gay churchgoers excluded from the city's annual Christmas parade last Saturday sang "O Come All Ye Faithful" during a prayer vigil as the floats passed them by. The Lower Keys Ministerial Association angered many gays and straights alike by barring the predominantly gay Metropolitan Community Church from the parade, saying the coalition of church groups didn't want to "condone" homosexuality. (No word on how they felt about promoting bigotry.) Protesters, gay and straight, held signs reading: "The Christian Right Is Neither" and "God Does Not Discriminate."

Donald Segretti of Watergate fame, who spent nearly five years in federal prison, is now running for Superior Court in Orange County. Somehow, that figures.

Serious campaign reform legislation is long overdue in this state. (Michael Huffington spent upward of \$30 million of his own money trying to buy a senate seat.) An initiative sponsored by Californians for Political Reform and The League of Women Voters is likely to qualify for the November '96 ballot. The plan's main elements are: contribution limits of \$250 in local legislative races and \$500 for statewide races, such as governor; spending limits of \$200,000 in Assembly races; \$400,000 in senate races; \$2 million in most statewide races; and \$8 million in the governor's race.

Don't look now, but Pete Wilson and most other elected state officials received an early Xmas gift Monday. Wilson's annual pay went up to \$126,000; Attorney General Dan Lungren and School Superintendent Delaine Eastin now clock in at \$107,000; Controller Kathleen Connell, Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis and Treasurer Matt Fong get \$94,500, while rank-and-file legislators will have to get by on \$75,600. Democratic and GOP leaders in each house will take home \$83,160, while the assembly speaker and senate president pro tem will be paid \$90,720. ▼



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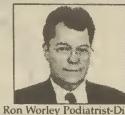
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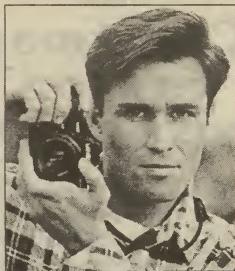
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SAPPHISTICATION

Third Party Animal

by Beth Elliott

Do we detect a trend here? A tidal wave of signatures puts Ross Perot's new party on the ballot in record time. Former national chair of Students for a Democratic Society (for you 20-somethings, that was a kind of NewLeft Nation) Todd Gitlin writes a book (*The Twilight of Common Dreams*) saying political correctness and identity politics have reduced the left to an ineffective amalgam of movement drama queens. Another commentator, Michael Lind, makes similar points in a book (*The Next American Nation*) forecasting the coming to power of a multi-ethnic American middle class. And seven national political figures, among them Senator Bill Bradley, meet to brainstorm a third political party that is socially progressive, fiscally conservative, ecologically sound, and intent on serious campaign funding reform.

I certainly detect a trend here, and a welcome one. I find myself among the majority of Americans: I embrace liberal values (humane social policies that provide for self-betterment and economic advancement), but too often find most liberal/progressive policies incredibly clueless.

Part of my skepticism of the left is the answer to the question: "Would I want to live under a system run by these people?"

Even were I foolish enough to forget the lessons of the lesbian '70s, there is the rainbow of flavors of political correctness in the GLBT (gay BLT?) community — and the savagery with which one may be attacked for lack of fawning belief in any random self-righteous queer's worldview.

Another part is the left's absolute refusal to acknowledge the ticking population bomb out of fear of being seen as elitist or (fill in the blank)-centric. In this day and age, anyone having more than two children commits a crime against the planet. But leftists call you "mean-spirited" if you decline to dig deeper into your own pocket to subsidize this crime, if you'll be your brother's keeper but not his co-dependent.

I could go on, but it's enough to say I'm disgusted with what the left has become: something whose idea of what's good and fair is one-sided, dismissing out of hand reasonable points of view because of the economic or non-believer status of those who hold them; a school of thought more driven by feel-good ideology than knowledge of how to make things work in the world without a benevolent dictatorship of We Who Know Best.

But don't take my word for it. Head instead that renowned public opinion analyst Daniel Yankelovich, writing in the November/December *Mother Jones*. Yankelovich asserts he is "not by

the way" that the crime was hate-related. He denied that either of the victims had been decapitated, tortured or sexually assaulted before being killed.

Abdill and Ellis moved to the rural Oregon town from Colorado, in the wake of the passage of the anti-gay Amendment 2 there. Upon establishing themselves in property management business the women found themselves in the middle of yet another round of anti-gay rallying. They fought back against Oregon's anti-gay initiative Measure 9 in 1992, and became well known in Medford for their advocacy.

Leslie Addison, Hate Crimes Prevention Coordinator with Community United Against Violence, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that anti-gay measures like Measure 9 (which lost in statewide elections) and its variants (which passed in the Medford area in 1992 and in 1994) cause hate-re-

operations on affirmative action? They claimed that without affirmative action in admissions, African-American and Hispanic-Americans would be excluded from UC. Hello? Isn't this saying nobody black or brown has what it takes to pull a 4.0 and kick butt on the SAT? It sure sounded like racism in the guise of anti-racism to me. All that effort might better have gone into shoring up funding for the state university system and community colleges. Community colleges teach the skills for making a decent living, and all at \$13 per unit.

I believe this "radical center" will grow and be a positive force for the kinds of changes the left wants to see, but those changes will come through a balance of opportunity and individual effort instead of some nebulous "entitlement" to equality of results. The radical center will not be composed of moderates disgusted with liberalism alone. It will encompass also erstwhile radicals who despise former fellows turned neo-con suck-ups yet have nonetheless lost faith in the left's analysis, programs and moral vision: we who nod in sad agreement at Yankelovich's findings.

We who wince at the irony of Todd Gitlin's belated acknowledgment that the left is now an ill-fitting sum of groups concerned with protecting and purifying what they imagine to be their identities ... [while] the idea of a common America ... was ceded, by default, to the right."

We who take hollow validation from Yankelovich's observation that "Traditional 'interest-group liberalism' held that the interplay of special interests would automatically represent the general interest. But it is increasingly clear that this view is just as flawed as the conservative economic theory that the invisible hand always converts greed into public good." The radical center: Yo Beth sez, check it out. ▼

Murder

Continued from page 1

tion about him. He did not know if George was a gay man.

From anti-gay ballots to bullets

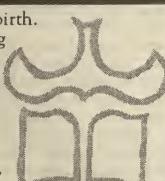
Ellis and Abdill's roots in the Oregon gay activist community ran deep, prompting many to immediately conclude that the murders were hits on lesbians. Moran declined to speculate on a motive in press reports released to the *Bay Area Reporter*, yet refused to rule out the possibility the crime was hate-related. He denied that either of the victims had been decapitated, tortured or sexually assaulted before being killed.

Abdill and Ellis moved to the rural Oregon town from Colorado, in the wake of the passage of the anti-gay Amendment 2 there. Upon establishing themselves in property management business the women found themselves in the middle of yet another round of anti-gay rallying. They fought back against Oregon's anti-gay initiative Measure 9 in 1992, and became well known in Medford for their advocacy.

"I'm sure my wife and I are going to be active in P-FLAG right up until the day we die," he said. "It's protecting our [sons and daughters] against unfair attack. It's a very normal thing to protect your offspring."

"There is a lot of hatred towards gays and lesbians ... or those of us with children who are gay or lesbian," he acknowledged. "We're all taking chances. We get a lot of hate mail, a fair amount of anonymous hate calls and death threats."

He said one anonymous caller asked him, "Wouldn't it be great if all you gays and lesbians were dead?" ▼



Women's Health Initiative Participants Seek Other Lesbians

by Mary Ann Swissler

Two Fremont lesbians participating in a ten-year, nationwide women's healthcare study are typical of the subgroup of women who are being sought out by researchers at the Women's Health Initiative.

Stella Lopez-Armijo and her longtime lover Ina Murri told the *Bay Area Reporter* they are accustomed to getting involved in community issues affecting straight and lesbian women, so when the chance came along to sign up, they did. "I told my granddaughter, 'I'm doing this for you,'" said Lopez-Armijo, noting the basic scientific data that will be derived from the results of studying almost 165,000 women over the next decade.

It is hoped that the study conducted by the National Institute of Health will help in treatments for the 90 percent of female heart patients who die in greater numbers if they are post-menopausal, or devising better treatment for osteoporosis, which is one of the greatest barriers to quality of life for women in their late 60s and beyond.

Along with serving as the first medical research project on women in the country, it doubles as the first genuine outreach to sexual and ethnic minorities. Yet although Northern California provides an abundance of women of color and lesbian and bisexual women, the Oakland clinic at Kaiser Permanente and the San Jose clinic still find themselves numerically challenged when it comes to signing up post-menopausal women, particularly those over the age of 55. At the Oakland clinic, for example, 165 women are now enrolled in clinical trials, and 626 in overall health trials: thousands less than needed.

Lopez-Armijo and Murri were selected for the overall health observation portion of the study. Other areas include hormone replacement therapy, calcium/vitamin D supplements, and dietary



Ina Murri (left) and her lover, Stella Lopez-Armijo, of Fremont were never asked the "L" question directly.

pattern. Lopez-Armijo said that the pair were disqualified for the diet portion. "I told them that I do most of the cooking and I'm not into cooking two meals."

Real low key'

Both women took part in the study at the San Jose center, a process which they described as "real low key until the very end" with questions that skirted the outright query "Are you a lesbian?" Instead, they were asked who they lived with, for how long, and if they had a sexual relationship with that person.

Far from feeling intruded upon, Lopez-Armijo said, "I thought it made me feel like it would be more inclusive."

Neither reported any past negative experiences from doctors. In fact, Lopez-Armijo said that when Murri had her hysterectomy, "I asked to be in pre-op and I was invited in by the doctors, no problem."

However, she also described an earlier time, after she started dating women, when she would shed any telltale signs of being gay, a rainbow ring in particular. "When I

would go to the doctor's office, I would take it off," she said.

Murri told her doctors she stopped taking her birth control pills. "And they just never pushed it," she said.

Lopez-Armijo said, "I told them I abstain."

From sperm, that is. ▶

For further information on the Women's Health Initiative, call 1-800-54-WOMEN.

CUAV, Other Groups Adapt to Changing Crime Scene

by Mary Ann Swissler

Deadly attacks on lesbian activists similar to the ones in Oregon last week are rare, according to Community United Against Violence spokesperson Leslie Addison. But lesser crimes are frequent enough to warrant a concerted effort among groups like CUAV nationwide, including a standardized reporting form that Addison and a newly-formed coalition will now use.

She told the *B.A.R.* that the National Coalition for Anti-Violence Programs, made up of 20 groups from around the country who have been meeting informally for the past couple of years, decided to come up with a universal incident report form, after realizing all the different categories that existed. A precise counting of all the ways anti-gay violence can break out is important since the group began publishing statistical findings on hate-related assaults and homicides beginning in December 1994.

This nationwide networking is

vital to newer hate crimes education groups in areas of the country where the right wing is targeting lesbians and gays, said Addison. CUAV and the New York-based Anti-Violence Project, for example, have more experience in working with police and the media.

"One of the next things after documentation is to provide services for survivors of these incidents, and to start to provide training," to both potential crime victims as well as to police.

Like other organizations, CUAV staff speak frequently with local police departments – and the earlier in a case the better, she said. "I find that there are a lot of times when the police don't know that they're missing a certain piece of information."

While New York's Anti-Violence Project has begun extensive documentation in Texas, Virginia, and Georgia, CUAV is by far a leader in transgender issues. Addison said, "We are the ones with the most transgender work, and there certainly is so much work for us to be doing." ▶

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GLAAD

A Repeat Broadcast

by Al Kielwasser

San Francisco-based radio station KSFO (560 AM) is once again utilizing the public airwaves to spread homophobia and AIDS hysteria. Immediately following World AIDS Day, in a (December 2) broadcast, KSFO's weekend host — Spencer Hughes — suggested that gay men living with HIV/AIDS somehow deserved their disease.

Citing higher rates of infection amongst gay men, Hughes indicated that homosexuality itself was at fault. Fewer heterosexuals have been infected, Hughes argued, because they simply behave better than homosexuals.

Hughes shouted: "I am fed up with people saying that homosexual sex is just as normal as heterosexual sex! I'm sick and tired of people saying, 'Oh, heterosexuals have just as much of a chance of getting it as gay people!' It's an absolute lie and it has to end here. ... And if you can't handle that, the hell with you! Keep up with your dangerous lifestyles and you'll end up in a casket too. ... Because of your own stupidity, and ignorance and complete idiocy!"

Although Hughes did cite accurate HIV statistics, his interpretation was recklessly at fault and his tone was downright hateful. The HIV virus is not attracted to any particular demographic traits, of course. The prejudice that causes indifference is.

The spread of AIDS in certain communities — gays, prostitutes, and people of color — demonstrates nothing more than our society's willingness to tolerate a plague for as long as it seemed to be killing "all the right people."

Last year, KSFO's reliance on similar medical misinformation and homophobic diatribes resulted in activist demonstrations as well as official government protests. In response, the station's management agreed to broadcast corrective messages (from the city's Department of Public Health) and to monitor on-air staff for accuracy in covering HIV/AIDS issues.

Send feedback to Jack Swanson, Operations Manager, KSFO-AM 560, 900 Front Street, San Francisco CA 94111-1450, tel. 415-398-5600, fax 415-954-8700. Copy your complaints to the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 800, San Francisco CA 94102, tel. 415-252-2500, fax 415-431-5764.

Look Who's Talking

With a signal that reaches well into the Bay Area, radio station KST (650 AM) is home base for Jeff Katz. KST's morning talk-show host, Katz regularly spends several hate-filled and fact-less hours engaged in homophobic ranting.

Katz opened one recent (November 27) broadcast, for example, by shouting: "You are looking for outright approval and you're not going to get it here!" His message was intended for all lesbians and gays.

Katz spent an hour or more describing his first car ride down Castro Street, during which he saw two men "who looked like football players" kissing each other. The sight repulsed him. Again and again, Katz wailed: "I just felt physically ill ... I almost had to pull over ... God, it just honestly made me sick!"

However, Katz told his listeners that he does enjoy the sight of two women kissing, just as long as it's done on-stage and for his pleasure. "Two guys having sex is perverted and disgusting," he said. "Two women having sex together

is entertainment."

Katz also "informed" his audience that all homosexuals are pedophiles. "They do want your children!" he shouted. "They do not reproduce. ... They're not gonna be happy until they steal your kids."

Katz argued that there is — just as TV evangelist Pat Robertson claims — a connection between homosexuals, Nazis, and Satanism. He also insisted, repeatedly, that such views were not hateful but factual. Anyone who accuses "factual" folks like Katz of being homophobic is, he claimed, engaging in "Christian bashing" or similar acts of slander. According to Katz, lesbians and gays who defend themselves against defamation are guilty of hate speech.

Send complaints to Dave Burke, General Manager, KST-AM, 10910 Olson Drive, Rancho Cordova CA 95670, tel. 916-858-1578, fax 916-858-1588; copy your correspondence to the Federal Communications Commission, Mass Media Bureau, Enforcement Division, Washington DC 20554. Advertisers during the (November 27) Jeff Katz show included Glendale Federal Bank (1-800-41-FEDUP); let this company know that underwriting bigotry can be bad for business.

Media Briefs

• TALKERS & BALKERS ... The American Family Association (AFA) is the latest society of professional homophobes to join in the national attack on television talk shows. The November 29 "Family Issues Alert" includes an AFA call for "monitors to help clean up trash TV talk shows. Monitors will compile lists of sponsors of such programs as *Ricki Lake*, *Montel Williams*, *Geraldo* and others. AFA will publish the names of those sponsors through press releases, newspaper ads and special mailings. For details, call 601-844-5036."

• LIFE STORIES ... In a front-page November 26 story, *Dispatch* staff writer John Kanthak conducted a matter-of-fact interview — "I Knew I Was Gay When I Was Five" — about growing up queer and living with HIV. In the first of a two-part series, Kanthak interviews Wayne Alloway, a 32-year-old, non-celebrity ex-cop and resident of Davenport, Iowa. Alloway sketches his life story from childhood ("I got my first crush on a boy when I was in kindergarten") to coming out ("I used to say I couldn't believe my parents didn't know all along. The signs were there. I mean, my friend and I would come home at 3 a.m. and go up to my room and shut the door. What did they think we were doing? But people believe what they want to believe"). Readers are left to like or leave Alloway, as a person. Subversively "mundane," this story demonstrates one of the ways the mainstream media can usefully introduce queers to straight audiences who still think that they "don't know any homosexuals personally" (and whose homophobia is sustained by that very thought). Send letters to the editor and feedback to John Kanthak, staff writer, *The Dispatch*, 1720 5th Avenue, Moline IL 61265, fax 309-797-0317, e-mail letters@QConline.com.

• HEALTH HAZARD ... A new report released by the Public Media Center (*The Impact of Homophobia and Other Social Biases on AIDS*) documents the mass media's failed response to the AIDS epidemic, particularly where gays have been concerned.

The new report concludes that "until the issue of homophobia is properly and adequately addressed in America, our nation is unlikely to generate an objective, focused response to the epidemic of HIV/AIDS." Contact: PMC, 466 Green Street, San Francisco CA 94133, tel. 415-536-3313.

• REACH OUT AND CHARGE SOMEONE ... A survey by the Human Rights Campaign, which analyzed the records and rhetoric of the 1996 presidential candidates, designates three of the men — Buchanan, Dornan, and Gramm — as "extremists" who have "gone out of their way to attack lesbian and gay Americans." Telecommunicators interested in adding to the costs of bigotry can call the toll-free numbers established for the campaigns of Pat Buchanan (800-467-2846) or Phil Gramm (800-238-3755). Queer activists are reportedly sharing their thoughts with and about these homophobes, at Buchanan's and Gramm's *literal* expense.

• E-MEDIA ... The "Transgender Community Forum" on America Online (keyword: TCF) includes resource files, links to web sites, and "a news area for the latest media on the Transgender community." According to Gwen-dolyn Ann Smith, area coordinator for the TCF, America Online now reaches a cumulative audience of some 4 million — a cyber-community larger than the city of Los Angeles. "The TCF is seen by thousands of people daily," said Smith, "and I would like to see that remain the case. I take a lot of personal satisfaction out of knowing that the TCF is helping a lot of folks find information that would not otherwise be readily available to them." For more information, or to contribute press releases, articles and other news to the TCF, e-mail GLCFWendy@aol.com.

• SUBMIT ... Delroy Constantine-Simms, of the University of Hertfordshire, is seeking academic contributions to a new anthology "on black homosexuality, from all the wide and various perspectives currently known on the debate," including "gay racism," "homophobia in the black community," and "equal opportunities and homosexuality." Contact: D. Constantine-Simms, The University of Hertfordshire, Watford Campus, Aldenham, Aldenham Hall, Watford WD2 8AT, London, e-mail D.Constantine-Simms@herts.ac.uk.

• (UN)SOUND BITE ... "I had this Buddha-like revelation that there's a whole list of things that are just distractions in our life, including homosexuality. ... There is a segment of the gay population that is not happy being gay. All I'm putting forth is that if there is someone who wants to change, it's possible. ... Do you think I chose to have back pain? I have no control over it. Back pain and homosexuality are identical. No more, no less." — Shock jock and best-selling author Howard Stern, interviewed in *New York Magazine* November 20, 1995. ▼

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, please call our 24-hour MediAlert Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaadsba@aol.com, URL <http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.

New Years' Eve Phantom To Benefit Actors Fund

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* will hold a special benefit performance for the Actors Fund at the Curran Theatre on Sunday, December 31 at 2 p.m.

The special fundraiser is part of the second anniversary celebration of the play's run at the Curran, which had been seen by 1.3 million theatergoers and grossed \$72 million by the Sunday, December 10 anniversary of its opening.

According to publicist Charles Zukow, the Actors Fund is a non-profit group that provides for the social welfare of all entertainment professionals including designers, writers, sound and lighting technicians, dancers, directors, and actors.

The group's headquarters are in New York, and it also operates a retirement home and nursing facility complex in New Jersey.

Among the services provided by the Actor's Fund for members is the AIDS Initiative, a project that helps entertainment professionals who suffer from HIV infection or AIDS. The Actors Fund provides case management, counseling, emotional and practical support, and financial assistance to people with HIV disease.

Affordable housing is often a critical need for members of the entertainment community, and the Fund is also launching two ambitious housing programs. The Astro-



Fundraising Phantom: Franc D'Ambrosio (left) as the man in the mask and Lisa Vroman as Christine.

ria on West 57th Street, opening next February, will provide shared living apartments and single units for members — including people with AIDS — and also provide social and support services in the refurbished 30-story apartment building.

The Kings' Road, a 41-unit residence facility in West Hollywood, will also soon house Actors Fund clients with AIDS.

With an \$11 million annual budget, the group was formed in 1888 during a time of great public animosity to the profession, immediately following the assassination of President Lincoln by actor John Wilkes Booth. According to

an AF brochure, actors at the time were held in such poor esteem they often could not be buried in regular graveyards, but ended up in Potter's Fields; an early purpose of the group was to provide for proper burials of members. ▼

Tickets for the benefit performance are available at the Curran Theatre Box Office and all BASS Ticket Centers, including the Wherehouse and Tower Records/Video, or by calling BASS at (415) 776-1999 or (510) 762-BASS. For group sales of 20 or more call (415) 441-5100.

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PlanetOut: Gayest Place in Cyberspace

PRNewswire

PlanetOut (PNO), a new international online community of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people, announced the PlanetOut Cafe, a new kind of visual chat space developed on V-Chat communications for the Microsoft Network. V-Chat communications lets PlanetOut members chatting on the Microsoft Network represent themselves with expressive, animated characters that they control, called "avatars." Members can make their representations be happy, angry, bored, and wave, shrug, flirt, and act silly. Avatars let chatting PNO members communicate with more emotional nuance, subtlety, and humor.

"V-Chat communications adds back many of the things that are lost when face-to-face conversations are replaced by online chat," said Tom Rielly, president of PlanetOut. "Gestures, facial expressions, spatial relationships, proximity, and physical expression are part of what makes personal interaction so satisfying. V-Chat is the next best thing to being there."

PlanetOut's java joint was designed by award-winning artist Alison Bechdel, author of the internationally syndicated comic strip, *Dykes To Watch Out For*. Like the comic strip for which she is famous, Bechdel's avatars are hilarious, expressive, and authentic.

PNO's avatars include ten characters in Asian, Latino, African-American, Indian, and Caucasian incarnations. Members can imbue their avatars with their own personalities, but PNO's avatars might be described as:

Gym Queen, a narcissistic Chelsea muscle boy in Spandex.

GirlJock, a spunky, twenty-something rollerblader with great abs, based on former Bay Area Reporter assistant editor Roxie Roxitronic's zine of the same name.

Execudyke, a briefcase-toting professional, and not-so-secret member of the Lesbian Avengers.

Mr. Downtown, a suspended forty-something with a secret alter ego.

Ms. Birkenstocks, an earthy East Bay mom.

J. Crew boy, a J. Crew boy.

Lipstick Lesbian, a glamour dyke with flowing blond hair.

Grunge Boy, a Seattle alternative music fan.

Ms. Pierce(d), a fiercely intelligent young woman who edits a youth magazine.

Mr. Chapstick, a leatherman with a heart of gold.

V-Chat communications is uniquely suited to the needs of the lesbian and gay community. Because the vast majority of gay people choose not to publicly disclose their sexual orientation, fearing loss of work, housing or family relationships, V-Chat's rich online chatting offers a safe place for closeted and out members alike to meet, express themselves, and make friends.

Williams, a youth activist in his spare time, added that the PNO Cafe will help young people come out of the closet safely.

"V-Chat communications helps members overcome the fear of entering a gay place for the very first time. Members can experiment with talking to openly gay members of the community in a realistic environment without fear." ▼



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A "fixer-upper" means a profit to many people, but it is important to educate yourself before taking on such a project. The most inexpensive cosmetic improvements often give the greatest return, for instance, paint will increase the value three times for every dollar invested. Landscaping, carpeting and light fixtures are also fairly inexpensive improvements. Expensive structural improvements, such as a new roof, plumbing, wiring, or foundation repairs, will add little to the market value of a home.

Remodeling an entire kitchen will rarely add more than the cost, but new appliances will give a fine return. The best renovation from an investment point of view is an extra bathroom, often giving twice its price in added value; the worst investment is a swimming pool.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

A Report from Washington:

White House Meet Was Way Little, Way Late, Way Cynical

by Martin Delaney

On December 6, 1995, in the 35th month of the Clinton Presidency, Bill Clinton hosted a "White House Summit on AIDS." To all those out there who had hoped to attend but didn't make the call, let me assure you: you didn't miss a thing. Except, that is, an opportunity to be cynically manipulated by an Administration self-satisfied with its own performance on AIDS but which nonetheless felt the need to engage in a little political posturing for the coming election year.

It goes without saying that no new ideas were either presented or heard — all that can be said has been said repeatedly and endlessly over the last decade by a plethora of government commissions and committees. If Clinton hadn't heard these recommendations by now, it could only be because he hasn't been listening. That such a meeting should be called at the end of the third year of his presidency, and never before it, tells volumes about his true interest in this issue.

One almost has to give old Ron Reagan credit for the sincerity of his approach — at least he never pretended to give a damn.

Unrestrained praise about the administration's accomplishments gushed forth from the mouths of White House staffers selected to herd the visitors around, perhaps in hopes of convincing the invited that we had indeed arrived in political heaven. This embarrassing display of fealty was nowhere more evident than in the words of White House AIDS Coordinator Patsy Fleming, who in-between chants of "historic this" and "historic that," breathlessly described how in earlier days she had once stood outside the White House in protest, but now held down an inside job.

"Viva la difference," she proclaimed, seemingly oblivious to the irony and the fact that a hundred or so protesters from ACT UP chapters and New York's Housing Works were shouting for "action not words" in the street below and behind her *at that very second*.

Cheap box lunches

As one of the supposed privileged few to be invited, I had the opportunity to view this sad charade from the inside. It began, like



land earlier that week. After the expected gushes from Fleming and Shalala, recounting all the incredible things Clinton was doing for people with AIDS, the Prez himself spoke. He pressed most of the right buttons, slipping only occasionally in ways that showed he didn't understand the words he was reading.

Again and again, this strange audience — 90% white, 80% male — burst into cheerful applause. I began to feel dirty and a little ashamed about being there, even in the basement room watching on TV. Better sense would have had me stop to join the protesters in the street. The carefully picked reporters read the recommendations from their groups, though it was painfully obvious that many were instead reading their own prepared speeches.

In one most telling moment, a woman with AIDS on the panel ended her presentation by asking all those in the audience who were HIV positive to stand up. My worst fears were realized when only a tiny minority of the audience, certainly less than 15%, stood.

Clinton tried to demonstrate his free-wheeling style by inviting a few comments from the audience at large (though this still was limited only to those permitted inside the main room). Sadly, no one took him on or asked why this "important and historic" event was only happening now, in the 35th month of his presidency.

One lone dissenter

After Patsy Fleming called the day to an end, one lone voice — I don't know whose — shattered the complacency and self-satisfaction of the room, challenging the president on a broad set of issues. Clinton tried to silence them with his well-proven debating skills, but the angry voice roared on until the plug was pulled on his microphone. Thank god, as the cheerleader audience sounded like it was getting ready to kill him.

It was now painfully clear who most of these people were and why they had been invited.

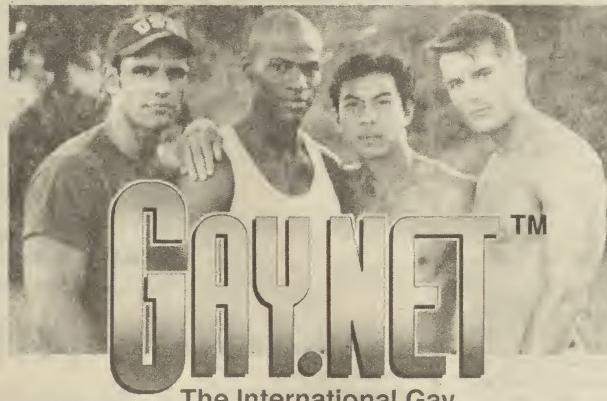
Not a single new idea, not a single new commitment. Nada. Just an ugly photo-opportunity. To those well-intended people who set up this farce, I can only say:

Continued on page 15

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Clinton Swims!

'The President Said What We Wanted To Hear'

by Mike Rankin, M.D.

As one of the 300 who attended the White House HIV/AIDS Conference, let me tell you what really happened.

Early Wednesday morning we gathered at the White House Conference Center, were welcomed by Administration officials, then broke into small working groups, each with a different focus. Some of us concentrated on treatment strategies and new drugs, others on prevention, discrimination, housing, funding, or substance abuse. Scattered among the various groups were cabinet secretaries and directors of all the agencies that so affect the lives of people living with AIDS. Not their third assistants or gofers – the directors themselves. The White House insisted upon it.

We met for nearly three hours, then moved to a large auditorium, where we spent another two hours in dialogue with the president. We reported on the work of our committees, and our recommendations/demands for the future. Some of the reporting was heated. Many of those reporting were themselves living with HIV/AIDS.

Was the meeting well organized? Absolutely. Was it scripted, with only a highly censored few allowed to speak? Hardly. The 300 attendees came from all over the country, selected by community agencies and groups. You may know 300 AIDS activists and PWAs in this country who could be censored. I don't.

The president said much of what we wanted to hear (the speech was written in part by Bob Hattoy, whom the *B.A.R.* condescendingly referred to as the

White House

Continued from page 14

How could you ever have expected anything more? The structure was doomed from the start. From my perspective, the day was not just a waste, but left me with a distasteful sense of being used. What's worse, we were used at our own expense. Because of the late scheduling of the event, we all had to pay top dollar for airfares and hotels, in addition to giving up two days of our time.

Next time, Mr. Prez and all your staffers, why don't you just dust off a copy of the Kennedy commission's report? Everything you heard on December 6 was already in there. You remember, don't you? It's the report you could have implemented in the first month of your administration.

But please, next time, don't ask us to waste good money donated to AIDS organizations to come pose with you for an election poster. For most real people with AIDS, things have not gotten better under your watch, and where meager advances have occurred, they owed nothing to your administration. On the contrary, you have wasted a historic opportunity to make large and lasting changes in AIDS research, prevention, and care.

My one integrity award for the day goes to the protesters in the street, who faced off against the cold Washington winds one more time in front of the White House. That's where the real voices of people with AIDS were heard on December 6. ▼



Protesters exhort Clinton.

"1992 Democratic Convention AIDS Poster Boy" in the last issue). The FDA would be pushed to speed drug testing. He'd veto any budget that deleted Medicaid funding for PWAs. The Vice President would convene a group of drug company executives and de-

mand they pay as much attention to the need for new drugs as to doubling their profits.

After the afternoon session, we moved to the Renwick Gallery for a reception and more talk with congressmembers, government officials, and Hillary Clinton. She is one impressive woman.

The next two days, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS met at a downtown hotel; the meetings were publicized, open to all. Again, key government officials were present. And again, some of the discussion was heated.

It was also productive, and we left convinced we had the attention of a lot of concerned and committed individuals. We'll meet again in February, when the president's had time to review and respond to our additional recommendations.

So that's the story from the inside. ■

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NATIONAL NEWS

Amend: No change

Washington Coroner Rears His Ugly Bigoted Head Again

by Dennis Conkin

sumed he contracted the disease through sex.

Needless distress

"You can see why I'm so adamant about not being called a 'coroner,'" Stephens told the *Bay Area Reporter* when he learned about Amend's actions. "It sounds like he's homophobic."

Stephens said that Amend's actions caused needless distress to Babcock's family, and that the coroner's request for the autopsy had nothing to do with "legitimate medico-legal investigation."

Amend's actions in the case have also drawn heated reaction from the San Francisco-based National Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, a group of 1,800 physicians.

"It's an outrageous and blatant example of homophobia," said GLMA president Val Ulstad, MD, a Minneapolis, Minnesota-based cardiologist. "It's just unbelievable."

"This is the antithesis of what medical care is about — to say nothing of the torture and suffering caused to this man's family and friends, his loved ones and partner," Ulstad said.

Ulstad also said the public needed to be educated that such incidents reflect the pervasive anti-gay bias and prejudice directed toward the lesbian and gay community.

Earlier this year Amend

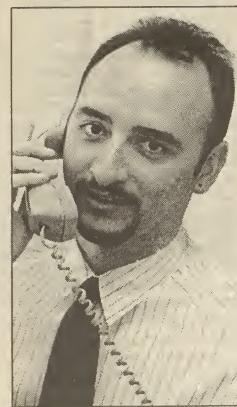


Photo: Dawn Lewis

blamed homosexuality as the cause of death in the case of a young Spokane girl who was brutally raped and murdered by her uncle. Amend made the comments because male relatives had repeatedly sodomized the child.

"I've been tracking the Amend debacle since it broke earlier this year. I didn't think it could get any stranger or more bizarre than it already had," said Robert Bray, a spokesman for the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force. ▼

Hawaii Gender-Neutral Marriage Report Due Soon

by Rene M. Astudillo

A commission created by the Hawaii State Legislature to study and make recommendations on the granting of legal and other benefits to domestic partners is about to submit its final report, and state legislators may not be happy with the outcome of the commission's work. As made public earlier in its draft report, the seven-member commission, appointed by Hawaii's governor, is recommending to the legislature that same-gender couples be allowed to marry.

Of the seven commission members, two are gay and five are heterosexual. The recommendation to legalize same-gender marriage is not unanimous. Two of the members do not agree with the recommendation and do, in fact, want a constitutional amendment to ban same-gender marriage. The two are both lawyers for the Rutherford Institute, which has consistently campaigned against all forms of civil rights legislation favoring homosexuals.

The majority recommendation by the Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law sharply contrasts with the state law that created it in the first place. The com-

mission was created in 1994 as part of a legislation banning same-gender marriage. That legislation clarifies the definition of marriage as exclusively between "one man and one woman."

The commission's recommendation is considered a blow to the state's case on same-gender marriage now pending in the Hawaii Circuit Court. The 1990 class-action lawsuit filed by three same-sex couples who were refused marriage licenses by the state was sent back to the Circuit Court in a decision handed in May 1993 by the Hawaii Supreme Court. In its ruling, the high court required the state to come up with a "compelling interest" for its continued ban on same-gender marriage.

The commission's recommendation virtually implies that the state does not have this "compelling interest." The rehearing of the case by the Circuit Court is scheduled for July 1996.

One of the groups that is very pleased with the commission's report is the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project (HERMP), which has been involved in political and media advocacy as well as grassroots mobilization in support of same-gender marriage. HERMP rallied the local gay and

lesbian community as well as out-of-state supporters when the Hawaii State Legislature held hearings on the legislation banning same-gender marriage. HERMP likewise rallied the community to write letters of support to the Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law's draft report recommending that same-gender marriage be allowed in Hawaii.

How — or if — the state legislature will deal with the commission's report is unclear. Tom Ramsey, HERMP's co-coordinator, told the *B.A.R.* that the commission's report is "advice" to the legislators.

"While the commission's report will help set the public climate in favor of same-gender marriage, we are fearful that the legislators will not act on, or simply ignore, the report," Ramsey said.

Part of the voluminous document prepared by the commission was a listing of close to 500 statutes granting legal and other benefits to married couples. This finding by the commission lends credence to what many supporters of legalizing same-gender marriage believe about domestic partnership benefits not being at par with those extended to married couples. ▼

UNITED WE STAND

HERE HAS BEEN MUCH TALK RECENTLY ABOUT THE PROBLEMS MANY HIV-NEGATIVE GAY MEN FACE TRYING TO STAY NEGATIVE AND COPE WITH THE AIDS EPIDEMIC. THE FACT THAT HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMS HAVE BEGUN TO SPEAK TO THE DIFFERENT REASONS THAT HIV-POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE MEN MIGHT ENGAGE IN HIGH-RISK SEX IS PERCEIVED BY SOME AS DIVIDING THE COMMUNITY.

WE HAVE A DIFFERENT VIEW.

We believe that addressing these differences is essential. Just as there are important differences between gay men of different races, cultures, ages, etc., there are also important motivational differences between HIV-negative and HIV-positive men with regard to prevention. Our effectiveness is limited if we don't recognize these differences.

A clear majority of HIV-negative men in San Francisco are staying negative. The number of new HIV infections among gay men has gone way down – from 8,000 each year to approximately 650. We believe we can reduce it much further. We have to.

Many negative men need to be reminded that it's still important to STAY negative, that it's possible to remain negative for a lifetime, that growing older is something to look forward to, that staying negative is NOT a betrayal of our friends who are positive.

It is not divisive for positive and negative men to support each other equally in our efforts to live through this epidemic. Rather, it is a way to BUILD a sense of community and assure its very survival.

The AIDS Foundation will continue to help both the HIV-positive and negative men of San Francisco survive this epidemic with the best possible physical and emotional health.



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Sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Office of Lesbian & Gay Health Services of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Photography: Jackie Wey from: GOOD DOG 1995.

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Whip It Good

Michael Ashcraft (left) and Brian Basinger prepare Christmas eggnog Dec. 11 in support of AIDS charities (AIDS Benefit Counselors, PWAC-SF and Positive Resource). The eggnog can be sampled (and purchased at \$15 per quart and then delivered fresh to your home) at Under One Roof, 2362 Market Street, this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Palo Alto Approves Domestic Partnerships

... And no annoying fundies!

United Press International

The Palo Alto, California city clerk started working Tuesday, December 12 on the final details of a plan to establish a registry of gay and other unmarried couples who want to formalize their relationships at City Hall.

The registry will allow unmarried couples to do what they cannot do under state or federal laws — formally declare their status as domestic partners and obtain a certificate declaring their partnership at City Hall.

The council has directed the city clerk to analyze the cost of administering the program and recommend a final fee for council approval. The registry fee will probably be about \$45 and will entirely cover the cost of administering the program, officials said.

The clerk was also instructed to establish the needed paperwork for the registry and other forms for couples who want to dissolve their domestic partnership status.

The council passed the plan Monday — without opposition.

"I didn't have a single call on this," Mayor Joe Simitian said in

disbelief Tuesday.

In California, only a few cities register partners, including San Francisco, Berkeley, Los Angeles, West Hollywood, Laguna Beach, Long Beach, and Santa Monica.

The registry idea came to the council's attention in August when some local residents wrote a letter to the mayor and other council members pitching the idea.

"So I sat down with a couple of these folks in my office and I said, 'Okay, tell me what you want to do and why,'" Simitian said. "As it was described to me, I thought it sounded fine."

The council voted 6-1, with two members absent. The one dis-

senting vote, Councilman Dick Rosenbaum, voted against the registry because he thought heterosexual couples should be excluded since they have the option of formalizing their relationship in marriage.

Couples who register may be able to take advantage of reduced rates at health clubs, transfer frequent flier mileage, and visit their partners at the hospital during family hours, among other possible benefits, officials said.

"The third reason was largely symbolic: it's a vehicle by which same-sex partners might make some more formal statement about their relationship," Simitian said. ▼

Cops in SJ Court Beat Allegations They Beat Gays

'Police can beat you up – and turn around and sue you'

by Mary Ann Swissler

Two men who filed a police misconduct complaint with the city of San Jose last year have been ordered to pay \$5,000 to police officers who claim the men slandered them during the process.

San Jose residents Bill Weinert and Vladie Mojica, both openly gay, told the *Bay Area Reporter* they plan to appeal the small claims court decision handed down last month. The case was found in favor of five police officers who told the judge their personnel files were tarnished by accusations the men made.

Police Auditor Teresa Daley said that many more decisions like this can be expected because of a new state law allowing police officers to sue citizens if a misconduct complaint is decided in the police department's favor. "That's really

scary," she said. "I can't understand it. The law should be there to encourage citizens to come forward, and have complaints investigated."

Weinert commented, "They're saying that police can beat you up – and they can turn around and sue you."

Weinert and Mojica have also filed a \$25 million civil lawsuit against the city of San Jose for alleged police brutality and false arrest in connection with the 1994 arrest of Weinert. A court date has not been set.

Daley also told the *B.A.R.* that beginning in January, citizens will have to sign forms stating that any knowingly filed false reports will result in criminal charges, before they may file complaints.

"One day," Weinert predicted, "[people] are going to wake up and their right to file a complaint is going to be gone." ▼

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Hillhaven Protest Attracts Hundreds of SF Marchers

by E.G.G. Allen

Some 300 healthcare workers marched through the streets of San Francisco last Friday, December 8 to protest the alleged mistreatment of elderly and terminally ill AIDS patients in nursing homes operated by the Hillhaven corporation. The protesters charged that Hillhaven, with the aid of for-profit insurance companies and HMOs, has been relentlessly driving to increase profits at the expense of patients.

According to the protesters, acute care hospitals have been using Hillhaven convalescent homes as medical warehouses to store patients who still require medical care, between their hospital visits. The problem, Hillhaven workers say, is that the corporation is not using enough of the money it is taking in on acute care patients to increase its workforce or pay for training and equipment for present workers.

Vince Quackenbush, a member of the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance and the SEIU local 14, stated, "Acute care hospitals are sending longterm patients to places like Hillhaven. Because Hillhaven staff are not trained to deal with terminal illness, terminally ill patients constantly suffer from poor healthcare. A large number of patients sent to Hillhaven are AIDS and HIV-related cases."

The San Francisco strike was not an isolated incident, but one of many throughout the U.S. by workers who have been denied decent wages, on-site training, and job security; they say they are falling into poverty and homelessness while affordable healthcare rises steadily out of reach.

According to Albert Land, professor of labor studies at Laney College, "The march that took place last Friday is a sign that workers - because of declining working conditions and unfair



Healthcare workers at the Dec. 8 march in San Francisco were angry at Hillhaven's alleged mistreatment of acute care patients.

labor practices - are becoming more willing to fight for justice and their rights, and not just roll over."

Quackenbush said he blames the massive resurrecting of the country's healthcare system for what is happening at Hillhaven. Besides the obvious impact of substandard healthcare on people with AIDS, he said, "Healthcare is a gay/lesbian issue, because it is a worker's issue. Ten percent of the members of each union in San Francisco are gay/lesbian workers, and are important to the economy of this city." ▼

San Mateo Responds to HIV and Prisoners

by Mary Ann Swissler

For the past two and a half years the San Mateo County AIDS Program has worked with a population of HIV/AIDS clients whose lives are already full of enough drama without their diagnosis: recently released inmates from San Quentin and Vacaville prisons.

"Whether they are popular or not, they are going to re-enter our community," said A. Gene Copello, Director of the San Mateo County AIDS Program. "We feel there is a critical need to provide this service in state prison to those who are returning to our county for our services."

Meredith DuHamel, Client Services Coordinator, described a process that begins with monthly visits to HIV-positive inmates at the facilities about two months before their release. "We have found that compliance with discharge plans increases dramatically if the inmates have developed a relationship with our staff in advance of their release," said DuHamel. These plans include finding healthcare, housing, substance

abuse treatment programs, and other related services. While they are there, DuHamel said that HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment materials are handed out.

This type of intensive case management is necessary to get them into the medical system and the social services system if they are unable to work, said Copello. It also helps them keep up with their program once released.

"Developing trust and a personal relationship with the inmates is crucial to the success of this program," DuHamel told the Bay Area Reporter. "We bring them ear plugs, newspapers, and other personal items. ... The families of the inmates also appreciate our services; we can give them updates on their husband's or son's condition."

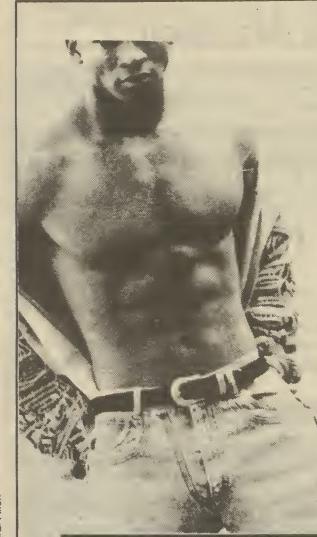
She said she and her staff try to seal the agreements they made before their release by picking them up at the front gate of the prison, in order to get them immediately into the healthcare system. By doing this, "We have had over a 90 percent compliance rate with all appointments," said DuHamel. ▼

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you enclose a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Emmanuel Kotko

On a beautiful November day in San Francisco, Emmanuel Kotko died with a keen and acute awareness of the moment. Over the past several years, his loving generosity, open-mindedness and determination fortified him as he persevered despite AIDS-related maladies too numerous to recount.

Although they are diminished by their loss, the family and friends are strengthened by memories of Emmanuel's exemplary life. There was not an unkink bone in his body, not an ounce of malice in his blood. Memorial donations can be made in Emmanuel's name to The Healing Alternatives Foundation, where he gave of his time until illness made it no longer possible. ▼

Donald F.G. Lambert

1945 - 1995

Don Lambert died peacefully on November 15 in his home in Silverlake from AIDS complications, with family and friends at his bedside. He was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, to Armand L. and Jeanette (Mortel) Lambert.

Don attended colleges in Southern California, where he settled and made his residence. He served two tours in the Vietnam conflict with the U.S. Air Force.

Don established a successful landscaping and tree-trimming business, which he operated until his death. His ability to create beauty and growth in a garden was unparalleled; his clientele included many of Los Angeles' pre-eminent figures and businesses.

Survivors include four brothers and two sisters, several nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Don is also survived by a multitude of friends he loved and influenced. He had a limitless repertoire of jokes, with which he could lighten any situation. He gave of himself generously until the very end; he will be remembered as a counselor, teacher and best friend to many.

A beautiful celebration of his life was held at his house December 3. In lieu of donations, please plant a tree or a bush in a place where those who see it can reflect upon our dearly missed friend. ▼

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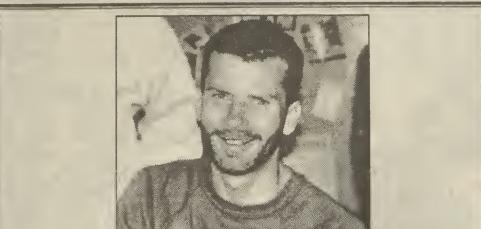


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JOHN JEFFERY WOOD

March 11, 1963 - December 1, 1995

John was a native of California and lived in San Francisco for the past 15 years, with a short break when he lived in Monterey. He was a graphic artist and worked at Drummer Magazine and the B.A.R. and at times tended bar at various locations in San Francisco.

John was most known for his love of animals, his sense of humor and near obsession with the Christmas season, which is no small wonder because his favorite color was green.

Not only was John a talented graphic artist, but he also had interests in computer technology and all kinds of other crafts.

John was a five-year member of Dottie's Boys Bowling team.

Another passion of John's was going to Reno, Tahoe, and any place with slot machines or video poker machines.

John is survived by his partner Jose, his mother Janice, his father Jim, his sisters Robin, Debbie, Lorrie, Violer and Karen, his brother Randy and other family members, as well as his beloved cats, Bianca, Margo and Walter. He is deeply missed by his friends Richard, Butch, Chris, Ken and Amanda.

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

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DONALD MCLEAN ANGUS

October 25, 1944 to November 30, 1995

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A memorial will be held at 11:00 am on December 29, 1995. The location is 181 Buena Vista Avenue East, San Francisco.

Kevin M.E. Stanton

March 31, 1958 - Dec. 3, 1995

After playing a valiant and tenacious game of chicken with the AIDS virus,

Kevin finally gave in on December 3 near his father's home in Houston.

Born on Staten Island, Kevin lived in San Francisco throughout the 1980s and early '90s, while most recently residing as an expatriate in London. He "worked" at both the (old) Stud

bar and the Baybrick Inn on Folsom St. Kevin was perhaps one of The City's original queer rockers, blazing a social trail in the SoMa club scene of the '80s and elevating the lounge lizard to an art form.

Kevin was also a master at the lost art of conversation and a notorious champion of good manners. He mixed effortlessly with both celebrities and street urchins – without judgment – while always brandishing his fabulously caustic sense of humor. Most importantly though, Kevin sought the glamour in all things. Indeed, no matter where he went or what he did, he never failed to uncover it.

Kevin is survived by his father, Ted; his sister, Robin; his brother, Michael; his wife, Joyce, in London; and his legend, emblazoned in the memories of hundreds of friends, both here and abroad.

It's last call, doll.

A (glamorous) memorial is being planned for January. To be included, call (415) 436-9923. ▼

Gabriel Lopez

Nov. 6, 1946 - Dec. 4, 1995

Gabe died peacefully at 3:45 p.m. in his home. With him during his final hours were his longtime companion, Gregory Phillips, and friend, Darryl Propes.

Gabe grew up in Puerto Rico and graduated from the University of San Juan with a B.S. in mathematics. He moved to San Francisco in 1976, where he worked for the Pacific Stock Exchange.

Wherever he lived, Gabe was always active in musical theatre. His musical talent extended to the choir at the Metropolitan Community Church, where his beautiful voice could be heard every Sunday evening. A special thanks to the Rev. Jim Matulski and fellow choir member Jean Taylor, who were by Gabe's bedside at his passing. Gabe was loved by many and will be sadly missed by all.

Gabe is survived by his mother, Romana; a sister, Millie; and many aunts, uncles and cousins, all of Puerto Rico.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 16, 1 p.m., at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Euroka St., San Francisco. For further details, please call the MCC at 863-4434. ▼

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Thymus Transplantation To Restore the Immune System

by Matthew Sharp
and Dean Knutson
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers Pool

An experimental and relatively non-invasive procedure that may restore the immune system in adults with HIV/AIDS is about to begin. One of the primary organs of the immune system, the *thymus*, is responsible for the maturation of T-cells, and thymic tissue can be transplanted into people with AIDS. Based on a limited understanding of this organ, experiments have been performed to test its purpose in the immune system. Thymus transplantation is not science fiction and has been performed in the past with some success.

The thymus is a small walnut-sized organ located above the heart. Scientists believe that it acts as school for teaching T-cells their function. The organ is divided into two parts, the *cortex* and the *medulla*. The immature T-cells migrate from the bone marrow and enter the cortex of the thymus, where they become *thymocytes*.

Then a small percentage of thymocytes go into the medulla to continue the maturation process, and go into the bloodstream as immunocompetent "taught" T-cells. These are the T-cells that are hopefully restored in thymic transplantation.

As people mature the thymus becomes "involved" (shriveled). This is possibly the reason the elderly have a reduced ability to fight infection. Studies have shown that adults over the age of 20 have difficulty refurbishing their immune systems that are destroyed after extensive radiation. Stress and HIV infection might also cause the architecture of the thymus gland to wear out; however, it is not clear how involved the thymus is in HIV disease.

Studies of autopsies in AIDS, as well as in other illnesses, have shown that the thymus is seriously damaged. However, autopsied thymuses may be shriveled simply from the trauma and stress of death.

The first experiments indicating a relationship between the thymus and immune function came from removing the thymus of newborn mice. These mice suffered from a lack of T-cells and an increase in infectious disease. Later, children with DiGeorge syndrome (a rare disorder of the thymus) were studied for answers on the function of the immune system without the thymus. Studies of thymic transplantation in this population have given us a model for possible transplants in HIV, and ideas for future research. Even though thymic transplantation worked in HIV-positive children with young thymus glands, it is not entirely clear, given the condition of the mature thymus, if the transplantation will work in adults with AIDS.

The March 1987 *Archives of Internal Medicine*: Vol. 147 included a study on thymus frag-

ments transplanted into 15 people with AIDS. In eight of the patients, there was an increase in T8 cells, but not of T4 cells. This increase in T8 cells was associated with some clinical improvement. This study speculated that thymic transplants alone may not restore the immune system but should be studied as part of the strategy for

**During a transplant,
the recipient's thymus
is not removed.
The procedure is so
simple that an overnight
stay in the hospital is
all that is needed.**

immune reconstitution. Thymic transplantation is being revisited now with better technology.

The hope is that transplants in combination with stronger anti-retroviral treatments and other immune restoration techniques will allow one's body to regenerate its immune function.

From these studies, one could speculate that an increase in thymic activity, in addition to a boost of the body's production of thymocytes, may help one to restore immune function. Thymic transplants may be especially exciting to people with depleted T-cells, because if you are at an age where your thymus has naturally atrophied, there is concern that even if your body can produce more immature T-cells, if the thymus is not functioning, those thymocytes may not go through the maturation process necessary to make them immunocompetent.

Thymic transplantation was the focal point at the Project Inform Immune Restoration Think Tank in Houston, and most attendees agreed that the procedure was ready for further clinical study in adults. Community representatives from ACT UP/Golden Gate and Project Inform gave input into the protocol, and a few patients will receive the procedure this month. Immunologists Richard Hong, from the University of Vermont Genetics Lab, and John Dwyer from Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney, Australia are the primary investigators.

Ethical and statistical considerations were debated at the Think Tank. Should the trial involve sixty people or thirty people with only two "healthier" arms? What viral load number should be allowed? Should IL-2 therapy also be administered? These and other questions were discussed at length, but will not delay the first transplants going ahead this month.

The operation is not a transplant as we like to think of transplants. Discarded thymic tissue is collected from children who have had surgery for congenital cardiac problems. (The surgery requires removal of part of the thymus.) The tissue is sliced micro-thin in a high tech Vegematic-like device. The slices are then prepared in culture for 10 to 14 days, and chemicals are added to kill pathogens that might be in the tissue.

A small incision is made in the abdominal wall where the thymus slices are grafted into the recipient. The recipient's thymus is not removed. The procedure is so simple that an overnight stay in the hospital is all that is needed.

The donor tissue is only partially genetically matched. Rejection of the thymus graft in people with AIDS is thought to be minimal; however, looking at rejection will be one of the aims of the study. Using partially matched tissue will enable more transplants to take place.

Advances in our knowledge of HIV pathogenesis, and better understanding of the immune system coupled with better anti-retrovirals and improved laboratory technology will enable thymic transplantation to move forward. The hope is that with this technology the immune system can be repaired for people with HIV. ▼

ACT UP/Golden Gate meets every Tuesday at 7:30 at 592 Castro Street. Everyone is welcome.

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② IL-2

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③ AR-177

- May interfere with HIV integrase, an enzyme required by HIV to infect cells.
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COMMUNITY NEWS

OrchidMania Plants Safe Sex Seeds in Vietnam

by Mary Ann Swissler

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Doug Thompson (with Madame Ho Thi Minh Nguyet on left): "They don't know what a condom is, much less how to use one."

It may strike many in the West as incredible, but safe sex educator Doug Thompson swears his efforts to explain basic HIV prevention techniques to sex workers in the economic capitol of Thailand and Vietnam are pioneering ones.

Thompson is president of San Francisco-based OrchidMania, which sells donated orchid plants and then donates the proceeds to HIV/AIDS organizations. He recently returned from Thailand and Vietnam with plans to go back in February with condoms and written materials in Vietnamese about male-to-male transmission. "They don't know what a condom is," Thompson told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "much less how to use one."

During his travels he met with former Vietnam War activist Noiapisuk, who founded the HIV education group Empower in 1989. "She couldn't stop being an activist," said Thompson.

Thompson said that recent indicators list Vietnam as the second-most-rapidly developing economy in the world, ranking just behind China. One Vietnamese cottage industry developing among those trying to escape poverty is selling so-called "sex vacations." Thompson now fears the proliferation of HIV infection is inevitable unless more people learn to practice safe sex.

it disruptive," he said, because there is a tremendous amount of resistance among customers to using condoms. "As I was told, 'The customer is always king.' Now, however, these groups are invited in by the businesses.

"Thanks entirely to these groups, most sex workers are now able to turn down their customers without any reprisals from the management."

Groups such as FACT and Empower depend entirely on contributions from outside their own countries, unless their own governments begin to recognize the problem and begin funding HIV education.

Unfortunately, from what he saw, Thompson said that's not very likely to happen. There still is virtually no government support for safe sex education, and the only prevention funds other countries provided Thailand or Vietnam was a single \$1 million grant to the Vietnamese government by the U.N. Agency for International Development. ▼

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

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"What about taxes?"
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"What else should I think about?"
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Leal Goes to the Bank Again for Equality

by Dennis Conkin

According to the memo by First Interstate vice-president Kate Dwyer, the decision was based on costs the bank would have to assume in paying for employer premium subsidies for employees' dependents. The committee also said that few corporations – and no banks – that offered similar benefit packages had the domestic partners package.

The executive committee said it considered and discussed "societal changes, employer practices, financial impact, tax, and administrative implications."

A First Interstate Bank employee, who declined to be identified because he feared reprisal, was highly critical of the proposal's rejection.

"This is the company which has seen its healthcare costs decline in each of the last three years," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The same company which has been forced to rebate a portion of previously-paid health-care premiums to its employees due to overzealous cost containment."

"This is the same company which has reported record earnings year after year – after laying off thousands of employees."

The bank has major markets throughout the West, including Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Phoenix, Denver, Dallas, and Houston. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Rail Di Caprio

HEALTH & COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues nights, 7pm at 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 94117. Info: 522-2907.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV-Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Community Research Consortium: conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Eric Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 209 or 215.

AIDS Treatment Education Network provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project offers support group for persons with cancer or AIDS, led by Dr. Syd Strong. Wed., 3:30pm. Call 566-5683.

Clinica Esperanza, the HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provides comprehensive bilingual HIV services. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Continuum HIV Day Services: an adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Call 241-5500.

Davies Med. Center: Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duboce. Info: 565-6369.

Deaf AIDS Center at UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group: Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. eves., 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

Extra Positives: Social support group for HIV+ men under 40. Info: 522-9477.

HIV Testing: Free, anonymous testing, counseling by Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project. Fri., Dec. 15, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs: provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Invention sponsors support groups for HIV negative men Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka St. 522-1785.

Iris Center: Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Kaiser Permanente Hospice seeks volunteers to assist with patients with AIDS or cancer. 7-week training session begins in Jan. Info: 202-3173.

Project Inform: HIV/AIDS treatment info hotline, 558-9051; journal, and educational Town Meetings. 800-822-7422.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Psychotherapy group for gay men explores issues of intimacy, low fee 12-week process groups. Call for info/intake: Operation Concern, 626-7000, ext. 126.

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The Asian AIDS Project's Bar Outreach Program (a.k.a. the Rubber Club) will be celebrating the Yuletide with "Ho! Ho! Ho! A Christmas Special" at the 'N Touch Club, 1548 Polk Street, on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 10 p.m., \$3. The festive event, featuring Tita Aida and the Ho! Ho! Ho! Boys (pictured), Peaches, Paperdolls and the Butterfly Crew, among others, is part of a canned food drive to benefit the Filipino Task Force on AIDS and AAP's Youth in Detention Program. Call (415) 227-1594 for more information.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200455
The following person(s) are doing business as RON'S RAINBOW TREASURES, 3886 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; RONALD LEE NICHOLSON, 4016 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RONALD LEE NICHOLSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 29, 1995.

Dec 7, 14, 21, 28, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200185
The following person(s) are doing business as NOR'A'S MARKET, 454 Capitol Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112; ALNER INTERNATIONAL, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORP., 65 Upland Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed ANTHONY WONG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1995.

Nov 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200254
The following person(s) are doing business as VAN NESS BAKERY & CAFE, 1122 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94109; SUY MENG KOR, 941 Morton St., San Mateo, CA 94401. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 01, 1989. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed SUY MENG KOR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 17, 1995.

Nov 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974177

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of BIKRAM JIT BRAR for change of name. The application of BIKRAM JIT BRAR for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that BIKRAM JIT BRAR did file an application proposing the name to be changed to VIKRAM BRAR. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 17th day of January, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of November, 1995.

Dec 14, 21, 28, 1995, Jan 4, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200203
The following person(s) are doing business as QUEST BBS, 666 Missouri St., San Francisco, CA 94107-2839; QUEST, INC. A DELAWARE CORPORATION, 666 Missouri St, San Francisco, CA 94107-2839. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 11, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JONATHAN LAVINE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 16, 1995.

Nov 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200309
The following person(s) are doing business as QUEST BBS, 666 Missouri St., San Francisco, CA 94107-2839; QUEST, INC. A DELAWARE CORPORATION, 666 Missouri St, San Francisco, CA 94107-2839. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 11, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed STUART F. MCCLAIN, PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 21, 1995.

Nov 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 21, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200369
The following person(s) are doing business as CYTNET SF, 1642 Hyde Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94109; DAVID LAU, 1642 Hyde Street, #2, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID LAU. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 17, 1995.

Nov 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 21, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200374
The following person(s) are doing business as SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION, 177 Camelion Way, San Francisco, CA 94122; SHUAIB MAJID, 415 Wilson Lane, Concord, CA 94521. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 27, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed SHAUN IBRAHIM B. MAJID. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 27, 1995.

Nov 30, 1995 Dec 7, 14, 21, 1995.



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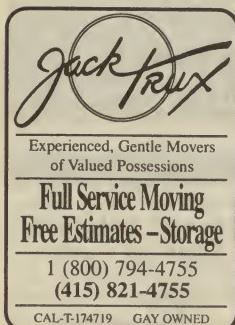
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Finely-Tuned Pulchritude

Paul Taylor Dance Company Returns to the Bay Area



Andrew Hurteau and Nina Gold
in *Orestes*

by Stephanie von Buchau

Last weekend the Paul Taylor Dance Company, looking as sleek and healthy as it has in years, appeared at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. For the first time in my 20-plus years of watching Taylor, I saw overt homosexuality onstage — and it wasn't dark or tormented either, but cheerful, exuberant, even funny. And that's not just a woman's opinion. Several gay male friends, when questioned about whether the women in *Arden Court* looked a little peaked, responded, "Women? I didn't notice any women."

No kidding. With six mouth-watering guys stripped to the waist, their washboard abs flexing above glittering spandex tights, who, besides me (trying to be critical), was looking at the women? *Court* has long been a Taylor signature piece, but as an innocent musical romp, not as a turn-on with subtext. Maybe I'm just reacting to the last time I saw the Taylor company, when its leading man, Christopher Gillis, was so ill; David Parsons, another resident hunk, had departed to start his own company; and Elie Chaib was about to retire.

Anyway, the new guys have quickly become a virtuosic ensemble, each with his own distinctive personality or physical characteristic (one could make a fetish of David Grenke's chest hair), yet musical and homogenous. (The company manager confirmed that they pump iron, a question I had to ask because few modern dancers are as ripped as Andrew Asnes, Patrick Corbin or Hernando Cortez.) Now, when you have all this finely-tuned pulchritude at your disposal, you have to do something distinctive with it, and I'm not sure that either new piece — *Offenbach Overtures* or *Funny Papers* — is worthy of the dancers.

Continued on page 36

Dusting Off Euripides

'Orestes'

by Chad Jones

Just when you think avant-garde theater can be nothing but pretentious and boring, along comes a crafty troupe that can put a canny spin on a dusty classic. Fifth Floor Productions, in association with the Eureka Theatre, has resurrected its production of *Orestes*, which the troupe performed for a short run earlier this year.

Set in an insane asylum à la *Marat/Sade*, this *Orestes* (adapted from Euripides by Charles L. Mee, Jr.) has the advantage of being produced in one of the most intriguing theater spaces in the city. Decrepit Nourse Auditorium on Hayes Street is a transporting backdrop for the high-speed craziness of this production. Once a beautiful theater, the auditorium has been stripped of its stage and most of its seats. Fewer than 10 rows remain in the back of the theater under the balcony, so the better part of the theater space is used to full advantage by the company.

Directed with muscle by Kenn Watt, this *Orestes* is manic, frenzied, funny and in-

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CABARET

Weslia Whitfield:
Queen of Cabaret

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TELEVISION

'In the Life'
dons its
gay apparel

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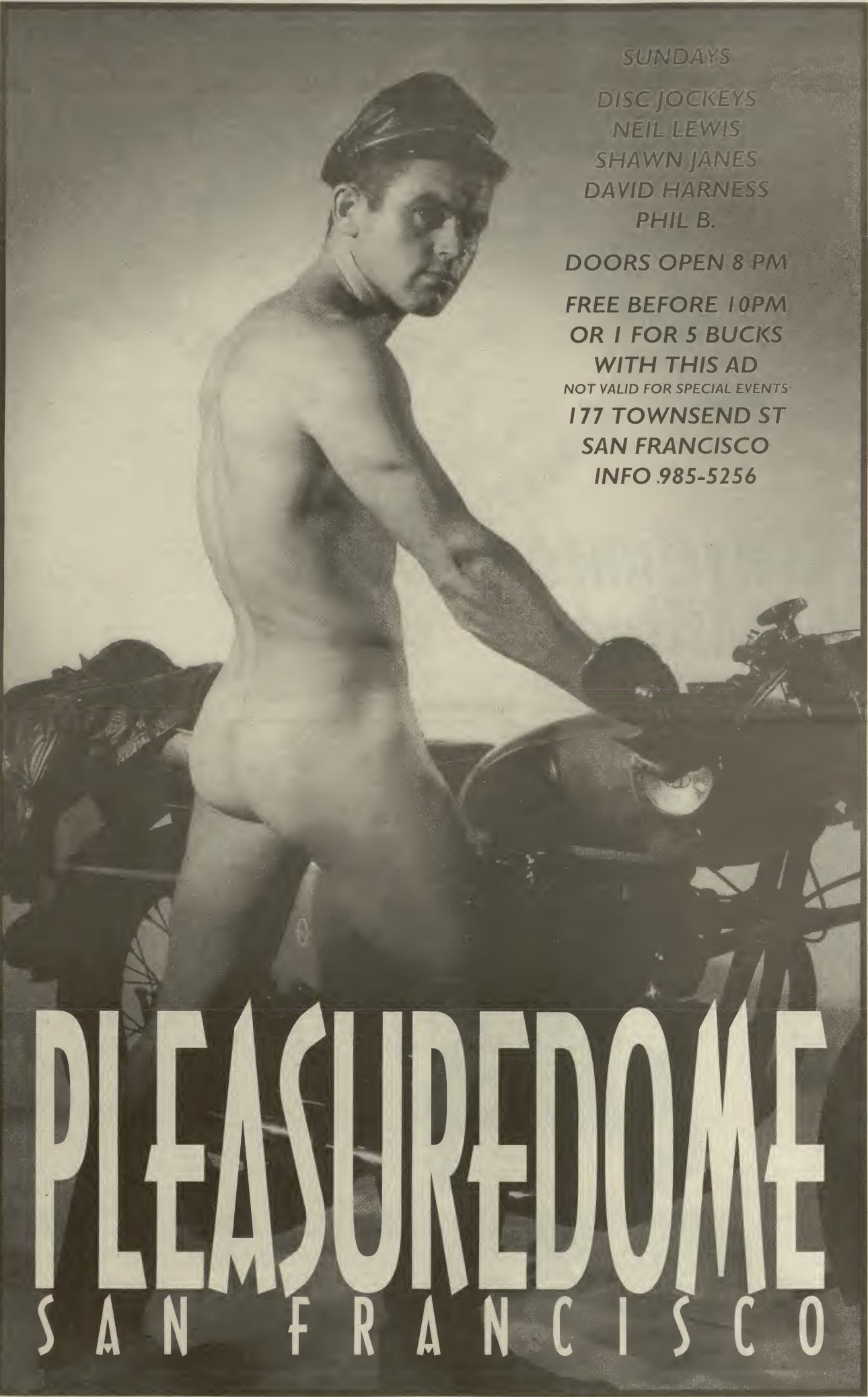
BOOKS

Mr. Mangin's
Christmas
book list

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A black and white photograph of a shirtless man with a tattooed arm, wearing a dark cap, standing next to a classic car. He is looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred.

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OUT THERE

by Justin Zane,
Pithy Galore and
Tessie Two-Step

La Cage aux Folles was a French play that begat a French film that begat sequels and a Broadway musical and, finally, the upcoming Mike Nichols-directed *The Birdcage* (formerly "Birds of a Feather"), a film based on the original play with "special musical material by Stephen Sondheim" that wasn't in the musical.

Anyway, that was the plan for *Birdcage*, but a little Hollywood bird whispered some interesting dish into our collective ears, namely that the musical material didn't "test well with audiences," so it's being dropped. It would be hard for anything based on anything related to *La Cage* to feel fresh after all these years, but judging by an advance teaser, Robin Williams and Nathan Lane comport themselves well enough in the lead roles.



Robin Williams



Simon Yam as Judge, the gay villain in Ringo Lam's *Full Contact*.

Photo Arthur Grace

Much more the rage these days than light French farces are remakes of Hong Kong action pics. The latest slated for an English-language version is Ringo Lam's *Full Contact*, the deliciously nasty tale of two double-crossing gangs of thieves, one of whose leaders (at least in the HK original) was a stylish homosexual, Judge, played by Simon Yam. A *Variety* story quoted the American producer as saying, "The overall principal story and plotlines will remain completely intact." Sounds ominous. We hope that Judge's sexuality survives intact, too, along with such priceless dialogue as, "Are you checking to see if there's a hole in my underpants?" "No, I saw a vomiting crab in there."

We're currently badgering our mole at Fox, whose lover is a nefarious local film producer, to get us a copy of the mock poster made for Kelsey Grammer's feature comedy *Down Periscope*, in which Grammer captains a submarine. As reported by Michael Fleming in *Variety*'s "Dish" column, the tagline is "It's long, it's hard. It's full of seamen." (Could someone from Falcon have joined Fox's art department?)

Along with all our readers, we're breathlessly awaiting the outcome of the Out There 50 contest. We couldn't afford Price Waterhouse and Germaine Wong was unavailable (she was too busy sending out double absentee ballots for the SF runoff), so we've bought a case of cigars and are tabulating the results ourselves. Pithy, Tessie and Justin are available for bribes; Mr. Mangin declares himself above reproach (even if no one else does).

Your 50 choices of our town's

queer movers and shakers will be published in the year-end issue of the *B.A.R.*, Dec. 28. There will be a few surprises, we assure you. One of those in the running is Empress Donna Sachet, who was lauded by one voter for representing SF at Court functions so well, "but mostly, she has learned the art of not falling off bar stools when she becomes too drunk. As a member of royalty, this is a good thing." (Couldn't agree more.)

Thanks to the hundreds of you who participated — as opposed to the few of you who participated hundreds of times. We're looking forward to making 50 people feel good for a day and pissing off a couple thousand more.

Midnight Caller: A final word about the contest. We think the delirious queen who persists in calling Out There's voice mail at all hours of the day and night to nominate the same people over and over again should learn how to disguise his voice, so that we won't know all those votes for so and so are issuing from the same blithering idiot. You might try letting an hour or two pass between calls, if not several days, and stop littering your labored speech with all those telling uhms and uhs. Clever and subtle you are not.

We wonder if San Francisco author Daniel Harris will make this year's Top 50 list. Know the name? You should. He's the one who wrote that spicy piece in *Harper's* last year about the AIDS quilt called, "Making Kitsch from AIDS." You may remember it inspired lots of frothy letters to the editor at *Harper's* and sent *Examiner* columnist Rob Morse into a fit of editorial sanctimoniousness.

All the blather didn't stop Harris. He's back in print in the December *Harper's* with a peppy screed on the new queer magazines, *Out*, *Genre*, *Men's Style*, and *Ten Percent*. "Today," writes Harris, "as the political climate for gay rights grows colder — as state after state proposes gay-discrimination bills, reaffirms archaic anti-sodomy statutes, and disqualifies lesbian mothers as unfit parents — these glossies are but fantasy literature, mood enhancers for a demoralized movement."

Out isn't a magazine crafted by disinterested queers as much as it is a "market-penetration device." The new gay magazines, writes Harris, "are glossing over the problems of a subculture ravaged by AIDS, splintered by ideological differences, and frustrated by political stagnation."

One magazine Harris forgot to mention in his round-up of the silly slicks is the newest brat on the block, *Provocateur*. Produced in LA, this oversized, outrageously expensive (\$11.95) coffee-table reader is host to all the standard narcotizing elements of today's homo rags: expensive ads for designer jeans featuring half-naked muscular boys take up space alongside essays in ten-point italics run across photos of naked torsos; photo spreads of narcissistic underwear models share space with "hip" pics of naked moving bodies. It's the usual stuff, despite a specious and opaque editor's note from Ryan Brookhart that claims *Provocateur* "is a subversive item."

The editorial content is a cut

above the others — an article about the rare appearance of the penis in film was particularly clever — but long articles about *fin de siècle* chivalry are truly sleep-inducing. Lending credence to Harris' idea that the new queer rags are more mood-enhancing than thought-provoking, almost every photograph in *Provocateur* is egregiously dark. The cover photo itself — by Skrebneski — is so gloomy and indistinct the image is unreadable. It looks like a mistake. If this is subversive, we're in deep trouble.

This week's stocking-stuffer suggestion is *Ken's Guide to the Bible*, which Ken's publisher (Blast Books) bills as the "world's most complete compendium of the Bible's most embarrassing passages." "Easy-reference icons" cue readers into excerpts dealing with "blood 'n' guts," "sex," "gender bashing," "Christian arrogance," and general "weirdness." It's not 100-percent correct, but it's great fun and does illustrate the absurdity of taking the Good Book literally, as so many fundamentalists do.



People may be ragging on this rag for its, shall we say, iconoclastic political viewpoints, but we do have our admirers. The conscientious students who publish the *Berkeley Guide to San Francisco* commend the *B.A.R.* for "excellent political and social commentary, personals, arts and style section, and several great contributing writers." A sidebar extols the personal ads, "chock-full of pictures of mostly male nudes with captions like 'Ex football player rubs you the right way.'" (And indeed he did — all of us — but that'll have to wait until next week's column...) ▶

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Across the Viral Divide

For the past four years, San Francisco composer and performance artist Animal Joe Smith has presented his *Positive Christmas: A Viral Celebration*, a hope-filled musical celebration of the holiday season, at South of Market's The Lennon Studios (271 Dore Alley). This year, Animal's "symphonic Christmas celebration" returns to The Lennon Studios December 14, 15, 16, 22 and 23. Despite the curious title, Animal's *Viral Celebration* is not about influenza; the show is a music-theatre performance based on traditional and contemporary Advent celebrations. Yuletide tunes have been composed and arranged to foster the spirit of hope and health for the new year and beyond. This year, the celebration centers on the issue of "viral apartheid" — the practice of separating HIV-positive people and PWAs from the gay community and world at large. Using classic Christmas favorites, in addition to contemporary and original music, Animal's *Positive Christmas* takes on the issue of viral separation in our culture, proposes ways to bring people together across the viral divide, and celebrates the faith and hope we find in ourselves and others during the holiday season.

Animal is an HIV-positive musician who, along with the Animal Ensemble, has been presenting musicals in South of Market warehouses for more than five years. You may remember one of Animal's more magnificent tour de forces from earlier this year, *Beowulf Nixon*, a performance piece that explores parallels in the lives of two infamous men, one an old English warrior, the other an American president, who abused power.



"Animal" Joe Smith

The opening night performance of Animal's *Positive Christmas 4: A Viral Celebration*, December 14, is a benefit for The AIDS Emergency Fund. Subsequent performances are scheduled for Fridays

and Saturdays, December 15, 16, 22 and 23 at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10 (including the opening night AIDS Emergency Fund benefit). For information and reservations, call 561-1441. ▼

Orestes

Continued from cover

scrutable. Even at its most far-flung, this tale of one messed-up Greek family is never less than engrossing. The chaos of the asylum is

well choreographed, and the actors employ a restrained discipline — even in the wildest of moments — that keeps the show from becoming self-indulgent.

The whole merry band of Greeks we've come to know and love from the House of Atreus are present and in crisis. Orestes (Andrew Hurteau) and sister Electra (Nina Gold) are about to be tried as murderers, and Helen of Troy (of ship-launching fame), brazenly and energetically portrayed by Carmen Elena Sosa, keeps bursting into the scene to remind everyone of the already-fading glories of the Trojan War.

Throw in a chorus of red-clad nurses and a score of very funny "inmates" and you've got yourself a whirling dervish of a Greek tragedy laced with resonant references to pop culture (the Hill-Thomas hearings, the media, celebrity glorification) that never stops moving or pulling rabbits from its hat.

Gay wunderkind Danny Scheie, who directed the current Theatre Rhino hit *Desk Set*, portrays Tapemouth Man, a Vietnam-type vet in a wheelchair with tape over his mouth. But once that character gets dragged off to an ugly end, Scheie returns for the finale portraying Apollo, a rollerblading god, the deus ex machina sent to render a happy ending. Scheie is an absolute delight with his chirpy voice and assured presence. He's just as good on stage as he is behind the scenes.

Director Watt's reach occasionally exceeds his grasp, but his panoply of hysteria never fails to be a dizzying, challenging delight. ▼

Orestes continues at the Nourse Auditorium through December 23. Call 243-9895 for information.



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Weslia Whitfield Wows 'Em at Plush Room At the Top of Her Game

by Chad Jones

Weslia Whitfield is the reason cabaret was born. Consummate musical skill, deft lyric interpretation and abundant good humor make Whitfield one of the most pleasurable cabaret singers of our time. The singer is back in town at the Plush Room after having moved to Manhattan (the cabaret capital of the world) last year. The intimacy of the newly refurbished and cozy Plush Room affords audiences the pleasure of hearing, as well as seeing, a true master at work.

Titled *Street of Dreams* because, as Whitfield says, they make you choose a title, this Plush Room show is 90 minutes of sheer bliss as Whitfield sings, the brilliant Michael Greensill plays piano, and the expert Dean Reilly plucks the upright bass through a well-chosen set of 14 songs.

What every singer needs to be great is a pianist/musical director who can create arrangements and accompaniment that are sterling on their own but when combined with the singer's own unique talents, result in something greater than the sum of the parts. Whitfield's ace here is Greensill, a pianist/arranger of enormous talent and personality, who supports and challenges Whitfield at every turn, providing surprises and fresh energy to the gems of the great American songbook — show tunes, pop tunes by Rodgers and Hart, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin et al — he and Whitfield perform.

If it's true what they say, that God is in the details, then Whitfield's show is truly a religious experience. This trio of musicians produces so many finely crafted, intensely focused and enormously satisfying moments that the show

provides one epiphany after another. To listen to Whitfield's strong, pure voice as it glides through Kern and Hammerstein's touching and admittedly sentimental "Folks Who Live On the Hill" is to hear the song exactly as it was meant to be heard. Whether she's interpreting a sad ballad like "Ghost of a Chance" or swinging a giddy tune like Johnny Mercer's sassy "Bob White," Whitfield displays a vocal dexterity that is in total control of every note, every inflection, every caress and punch. Her style is subdued — she doesn't act out the song, weep salty tears or make coy with the words. But there's passion in Whitfield, passion for the songs themselves. The beauty of her interpretation, aside from the crystalline purity of the voice itself, is that she leaves it to her audience to react to the song, to find the meanings in the words and the emotions in the melody.

Listening to Whitfield is one of life's ultimate pleasures, but you can stay home and do that. Her

CDs are glorious examples of her art, especially *Nice Work*, her most recent. But watching Whitfield at work, especially in the up-close Plush Room, yields delights that only heighten the vocal experience. Whitfield never does too much — her face is just expressive enough. The hint of a smile, a wistful look in the eye, the precise gesture of a hand and the glow of a well-told joke illuminate and complement the singer's performance.

We're lucky to have her back, if only for a little while. The Plush Room should be packed to the rafters every night. Seeing and hearing Weslia Whitfield is a rare and wonderful opportunity to hear great songs sung in a blissfully unaffected yet captivatingly artful way. It just doesn't get any better than this. ▼

Weslia Whitfield's Street of Dreams continues at the Plush Room through December 31. Call 885-2800 for information.



Weslia Whitfield

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Yuletide Ride With 'In the Life'

by Hakeem Oseni

John Scagliotti and Charles Ignacio, producers of *In the Life*, the nation's only gay and lesbian variety show, have assembled a warm holiday package focusing on religion, leadership and the holidays. Katherine Linton hosts the show, which airs locally on KQED-9 on December 19 at 11 p.m.

The episode begins with gay

and lesbian students at the University of Notre Dame discussing homosexuality in Roman Catholic institutions. Whilst the school's administration stresses its reluctance to embrace a homosexual student organization, students address the need for a visible campus support group to help students who are coming to terms with their sexuality.

The segment features an interview with Dr. Mark Jordan, pro-

fessor of Medieval Studies at Notre Dame, who says that "Don't ask, don't tell" has been the Catholic Church's policy on homosexuality for centuries. According to Jordan, only three faculty members are "out" at Notre Dame; others stay closeted for fear of losing their jobs if they come out.

Next, *In the Life* speaks with "Stephan K" who survived Nazi persecution at age 17 for being in love with another man. Stephan K documents horrifying hormonal experiments and castration in the concentration camps. The show also visits the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., one of the first museums in the world to feature a display explaining the origin of the pink triangle — the symbol homosexuals were branded with during Hitler's reign. Clips from *Singing Out*, a documentary about the LA Gay Men's Chorus' Eastern European tour, including their visit to a Nazi concentration camp, are also featured.

In the Life's Washington D.C. segment features an interview with President Clinton's Senior Advisor George Stephanopoulos, who discusses the President's support of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, as well as a discussion on lesbian and gay leadership in the nation's capital. Elizabeth Birch, David Mixner, Melinda Paras, Uravashi Vaid and other prominent gay figures in D.C. are interviewed.

Additional segments explore the difficulties lesbians and gays face during the holidays (just how do we deal with our straight relatives?) and how mainstream gay theater caters to gay men. The latter segment is particularly interesting. Interviews with movers and shakers of the lesbian theater scene — Holly Hughes, The Five Lesbian Brothers, Anne Harris, founder of The Lesbian Exchange of New Drama, and Peggy Shaw, founder of the WOW cafe, one of the oldest lesbian performance spaces in the country — locate two reasons for the lack of Sapphicitation in today's theater: women typically earn less money than men on the stage; a long-standing gay male connection to Broadway has usurped a lesbian presence. ▼

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* Winners receive two tickets for Opening Night, Wednesday, December 27, 8PM performance ONLY. Entries must be received by December 18. Five correct winners will be randomly selected and will be notified by phone. Employees of Bay Area Reporter, the SHNO, and the company and agencies of "West Side Story" are not eligible.

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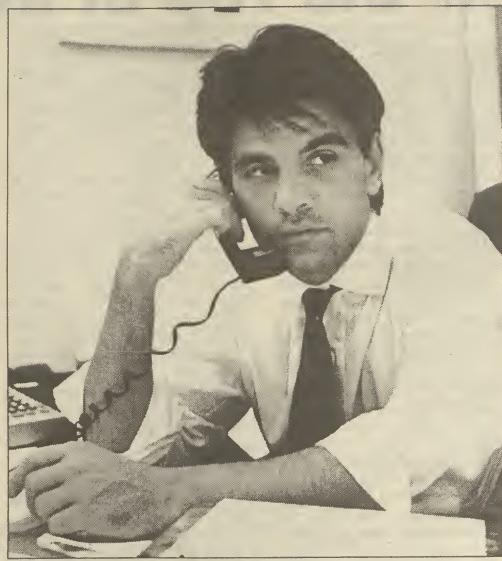


Photo courtesy of In the Life Television

George Stephanopoulos

MUSIC

Boy George To Play The Fillmore



Photo: Mark Contratto/Visages

by Adrian Roberts

Although he's managed to blow through town a couple of times over the past few years, the last time Boy George actually performed in San Francisco was back in 1991, at Club DV8. Looking haggard and bloated, the Boy sang to a backing tape for barely half an hour, then unceremoniously left the stage. For a supposed "comeback" gig, it was less than stellar.

But, hey, that was four years ago, right? That was before *this year's* comeback, which included both the release of his juicy, name-dropping autobiography, *Take It Like A Man*, and his new rock album, *Cheapness & Beauty*. So it says something that his show this Saturday is taking place at a venue like The Fillmore instead of a dance club.

For one thing, it shows that the Boy has abandoned the dance-pop driven of his early solo career for something a bit edgier, something a bit more rock-'n'-roll. And although *Cheapness & Beauty* does at times suffer from a certain derivative hard rock sound, the lyrical content is anything but formula. Dealing with themes such as homosexual love, closet cases, and AIDS, it is his most upfront, most *out* record yet. There is real intimacy to it, especially on the slower acoustic numbers, such as "I Adore."

With him, Boy George will be bringing along a seven-piece rock band that he says "kicks ass." Though the set will be skewed more towards his recent material, there will be a smattering of old Culture Club hits thrown in, such as updated versions of "Karma Chameleon," "Church of the Poison Mind" and "Do You Really Want To Hurt Me?" Hopefully, unlike the last time, this "comeback" show will really signify a comeback. ▼

Boy George plays The Fillmore this Saturday, December 16. Show starts at 9 pm. Tickets are \$21.50. Call 346-6000 for more information.

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photos: Patrick Reynolds

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A Listener's Gift

The Symphony: A Listener's Guide by Michael Steinberg; Oxford University Press, \$35

by Philip Campbell

Everyone has a special music lover on their Xmas gift list and Michael Steinberg's luxurious book *The Symphony: A Listener's Guide* has arrived just in time for holiday gift-giving.

Regular SF Symphony patrons have been reading Steinberg's illuminating program notes for 15 years. His musicology is also influential in Boston, where Steinberg was the program annotator for the Boston Symphony, and in New York, where Steinberg currently writes notes for the New York Philharmonic. Music lovers on both coasts know him as an accessible and stimulating commen-

tator.

The only surprise about this engrossing compendium is that it took so long to appear. Perhaps only Andrew Porter — late of *The New Yorker* and currently employed by *Gramophone* magazine — has made an equally important contribution to music writing in our time. Where Porter can sometimes be a difficult read, however, Steinberg is consistently reader-friendly. *The Symphony* will prove enjoyable to both novices and aficionados.

Though *The Symphony* has few if any drawbacks, one could carp about the book's lack of personal data. Perhaps there was an early version of the book that included Steinberg's memorable essay "How I Fell In Love With Music"? Its absence from the published book is conspicuous. It would have made an ideal preface. The

image of a young boy in war-torn Britain (Steinberg was born in Germany but grew up in England, where he was partially educated) falling in love with the soundtrack of Disney's *Fantasia* goes straight to the heart. Also, one would like to know more about Steinberg's tenure as music critic of the *Boston Globe*, a position that earned him the title "persona non grata" among certain circles of the Boston Symphony.

As it is, though, *The Symphony: A Listener's Guide* is a fascinating achievement of musical scholarship. Featuring commentary on close to 120 works by 36 composers, Steinberg covers the complete symphonies of Beethoven, Brahms, Elgar, Sibelius and Mahler, as well as famous works by Schubert, Bruckner, Tchaikovsky, Vaughn Williams



There are even sections on William Schuman (one of America's most shamefully neglected composers), Roger Sessions and Walter Piston.

For those unfamiliar with Steinberg's vast legacy of musical annotation, it is safe to say that reading one chapter will prove addictive. The writer's unbiased ideas flow easily on all forms of musical expression. The chapters on Haydn, Shostakovich and Michael Tippett are particularly interesting, but readers will find their own favorite pages in this book, which is intended for repeated visits.

At 678 pages, *The Symphony: A Listener's Guide* is hardly a stocking stuffer, but it certainly deserves a place under every music lover's tree this year. ▼

Michael Steinberg's *The Symphony: A Listener's Guide* is available at **A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books and elsewhere.**

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DANCE



Funny Papers

Paul Taylor

Continued from cover

Paul Taylor has one of the better senses of humor in modern dance, but his two-piano *Rite of Spring* and the musically hilarious *Public Domain* are a lot funnier than these new works, in which the dancers seem like interchangeable pegs, dressed in aesthetically off-putting costumes by Santo Loquasto — bright red for *Offenbach*; satiny jumpsuits that are black on one side and white on the other (hair hair hair) for *Funny Papers*.

There is one episode in *Offenbach*, however, that redeems the whole piece. To the martial strains of the "American Eagle Waltz," Taylor parodies a traditional 19th-century duel. Corbin and Richard Chen See are the antagonists, supported by Asnes and Thomas Patrick. While the seconds jostle, bump and push each other in escalating macho

fury, the duelists decide to make love, not war, and end up waltzing, embracing and finally running off arm in arm for who knows what knightly adventure. It is an absolutely liberating scream of a piece, greeted with huge whoops of approval.

I only wish I liked the rest of this one-joke *Offenbach* as well. Except for Lisa Viola's tipsy routine, most of the humor falls flat — especially when lovers Grenke and Mary Cochran keep misplacing each other in the melee (yawn). On the other hand, the frothy music and too-determined silliness disguise some excruciatingly difficult choreography. I know Taylor claims never to use ballet steps, but his suspiciously classic turns were not executed with enough technical aplomb, and he scatters "cat jumps" (*pas de chat*) throughout.

Funny Papers includes over-the-head leg kicks — something else Taylor scorns as balletic, a

"plebeian, low-class idea," though I suppose he means it as a joke, too. Unfortunately, it is difficult to satirize something that is already as low class as the novelty music in this piece. The "Oakeh Laughing Song" lays a huge egg; I can't even remember the movement because the noise was so irritating. "Popeye the Sailor Man" is only amusing because the muscular Asnes is so light on his feet as the punch-drunk spinach fancier. The choreography for "I Am Woman" (a man and woman repeating the same steps for an admiring opposite sex cheering section) is as forgettable as the song is hilarious, sung beguilingly off-key by Jo Stafford in her "Darlene Edwards" persona.

With Taylor standards such as *Cloven Kingdom*, *Esplanade* and *Roses* getting definitive performances, it was the dancers not the new choreography that carried this return of Paul Taylor's company. I'm not complaining. ▼

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BOOKS

Five Recent Movie Books

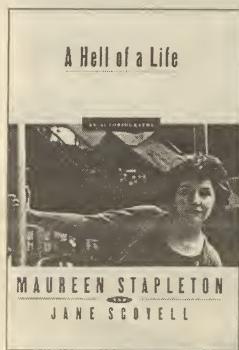
A 'Hell of a Life' and Then Some

by Daniel Mangin

A Hell of a Life
Maureen Stapleton; Simon and Schuster, \$24

Not so long ago even unauthorized biographers of show-biz personalities showed restraint when it came to their subjects' foibles and love affairs. Now the stars themselves rush to tell all — perhaps as preemptive strikes, maybe as therapy.

Maureen Stapleton has indeed had a hell of a life. She crossed paths with many luminaries of the stage and screen, among them Tennessee Williams, Marlon Brando, Colleen Dewhurst, Elizabeth Taylor and Laurence Olivier. She doesn't mind telling her readers she's an alcoholic, was a lousy wife and that she cusses like a truck driver. She even discusses her ten-year affair with the late George "Mr. Broadway" Abbott, which began when he was 81 and she 43.



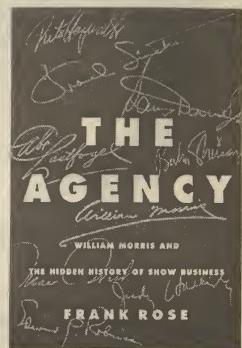
For someone who trained at the Actors Studio — she performed a well-received scene from *Anna Christie* with Marilyn Monroe at a Method workshop — Stapleton is surprisingly "at a loss as to how to describe" her craft: "Listen, acting is acting. Your task is to keep the audience awake and interested, and make no mistake, keeping them awake is *numero uno*." Later on she's a little more specific, particularly when she outlines the differences between film and theater acting. Her book's a good read, with just the right quotient of dish, personal anecdotes and show-biz lore.

The Agency: William Morris and the Hidden History of Show Business by Frank Rose; HarperBusiness, \$30

Anyone harboring notions of the entertainment business as anything but a den of vipers is kindly directed to Frank Rose's examination of the William Morris Agency. It's a fascinating history of the era from vaudeville to the present, as seen through the activities of the legendary talent office.

Reputable folks such as the original William Morris and his successor Abe Lastfogel do pop up, but they're continually doing battle with schemers — from the vaudeville syndicates of the 1900s and 1910s to Hollywood moguls past and present — trying to monopolize the talent pool. At one point mid-century the shady characters include the Mafia, which becomes a major player, both within the agency and without.

Well into the 1970s, William



Morris's ability to anticipate and even foster change in the entertainment world was its hallmark. Its agent Harry Kalcheim had alerted his superiors to the singer's star potential; even the older higher-ups "got it." In the '80s, ICM and CAA (now having problems of their own) eclipsed William Morris, especially in the representation of feature-film talent, though its recent deals for O.J. Simpson prosecutors Marcia Clark and Christopher Darden show the agency still knows from marketing.

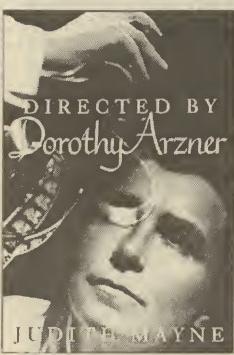
Several interesting chapters detail the advent of film and TV packages. The Morris agency has always been adept at the latter, having had a finger in such hits as Danny Thomas's *Make Room for Daddy* and *The Cosby Show*.

Directed by Dorothy Arzner
by Judith Mayne; Indiana University Press, \$15.95

It took months to get a review copy — hopefully one can find it more easily in stores — but this study of one of early Hollywood's most high-profile directors was worth the wait. Not a traditional biography, the book concerns itself with "how Arzner's career was shaped by the various meanings associated with her status as a 'woman director.'"

Arzner began working in Hollywood in 1919 as a typist, briefly, before finding a niche as an editor. She directed 16 films between 1927 and 1943 and was known as a "starmaker" at Paramount, where she nurtured the film careers of actresses Esther Ralston, Ruth Chatterton and others. Arzner is credited with several technical innovations, including the fishpole mike, fashioned, legend has it, so that the effervescent Clara Bow would have more freedom of movement in her first talkie, *The Wild Party*.

Like gay George Cukor, Arzner, who lived with the same woman companion from the early '30s into the '70s, was pegged



early on as a "woman's director." Her gender allegedly granted her a special window into the feminine psyche. She was praised for this early in her career, but Mayne illustrates through excerpts from reviews of Arzner's films that she was just as often criticized for weak male characters or for letting her "feminine perspective" undermine her narrative.

Latter-day analysts of Arzner's major pictures have debated their social critique of women's roles — or lack thereof. Some find films such as *Christopher Strong* and *Craig's Wife* "subversive," while others assert that their deep roots in Hollywood convention nullify any potentially liberating messages. Mayne negotiates a shrewd path between these two extremes, crediting Arzner with "locating the 'discourse of the woman' center stage" and outlining how the town's shifting priorities over the years affected Arzner's output.

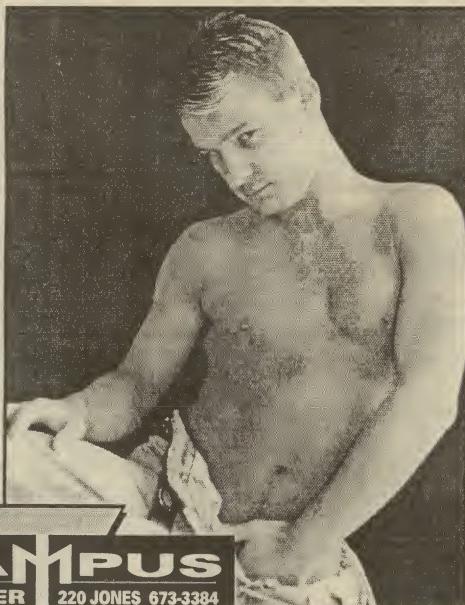
Dark Carnival: The Secret World of Tod Browning, Hollywood's Master of the Macabre by David K Skal and Elias Savada; Anchor Books, \$23

Tod Browning parlayed his youthful fascination with the freaks and lowlives of the turn-of-the-century carnival trade into one of Holly

Continued on page 39

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BOOKS

Gratuitous Grief

The Medicine Burns by Adam Klein; High Risk Books/Serpent's Tail, \$11.99

by Wendell Ricketts

One of the hallmarks of modern, so-called experimental fiction is the rebirth of the first-person narrative. High Risk Books/Serpent's Tail has been doing its part both to create and foster that renaissance, and its publication of Adam Klein's *The Medicine Burns* illustrates the point.

The "linked stories" that make up *The Medicine Burns* read like a series of journal entries by a gifted, emotionally troubled adolescent. The "I" is omnipresent, with both the ruthless self-revelation and the relentless narcissism that such a point of view entails. Together, in fact, Klein's "stories" constitute the loose autobiography of a single, desultory life: In the first, the narrator is a young boy trying to drag from his mother's closet; in the last, he has grown into a man who flies to Benares to die of AIDS. Yet Klein concerns himself only vaguely along the way with the creation of a fictive reality (about mid-book we learn that the narrator's name is also Adam).

The Medicine Burns is a faint at the kind of literature of dissolution that David Wojnarowicz mastered (and which, for a mercifully brief time, was called "transgressive"), but one becomes overwhelmed by Klein's accumulation of appalling details that ultimately illustrate no particular point. Even Klein's use of physical deformity as a stand-in for emotional scarification is clumsy. He gives his characters acne, keloids, needle tracks, Kaposi's lesions, even a club foot — shades of Maugham's Philip Carey in *Of Human Bondage* — but explores the obvious metaphors only superficially.

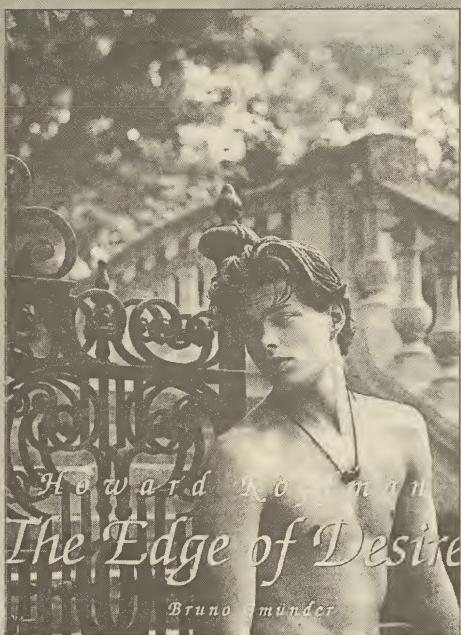
Klein is clever and talented, but *The Medicine Burns* betrays his limitations. Above all, his book is a reminder that there is nothing necessarily experimental or avant-garde about fiction that dispenses with plot, character development and motivation. ▼



Photo: Marc Geller

Adam Klein

Flesh and Fantasy



Local photographer Howard Roffman will be signing copies of his first book, *The Edge of Desire* (Bruno Gmunder Verlag, \$34.95), at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street, on Friday, December 15, 7-9 p.m. Joining Roffman will be some of his best-known models, who, like the photographer, also have a following of their own. Roffman's work, which has of late been getting quite a reputation in Europe, especially Amsterdam and London, is several cuts above the run-of-the-mill *garcons-sans-vetements* school of photography (read: poorly lit, badly composed) so prevalent in "gay art." The subjects here are easy on the eye, to be sure, but seem almost unconscious of their own attractiveness, though not quite. The result is a surprisingly intimate book of photographs in which a variety of young men of surpassing beauty reveal themselves to the camera in a way which goes beyond merely taking off their clothes (which many of them, thankfully, also do). *The Edge of Desire* is the perfect Christmas gift for the connoisseur of the male face and figure. Give it pride of place on your coffee table; only make sure some overappreciative guest doesn't walk off with it. ▼

— Patrick D. Hoctel

FILM

Sneak Preview

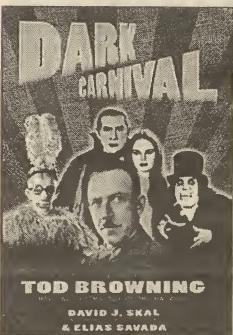
Miramax Films's *French Twist* has gone under several monickers — formerly known as *Bushwhacked*, its French title is "Gazon Maudit" — but by any of them it's one of the funniest lesbian-tinged films of the year. Director Josiane Balasko stars as a butch lesbian who befriends a housewife (Victoria Abril) whose husband (Alain Chabat) is cheating on her. The mechanically-minded Balasko fixes a few things around the house, and before long the two women have embarked on a torrid love affair. The comedy really kicks in when hubby finds out. Frame-line, which produces the annual SF gay film fest, is presenting a sneak preview of *French Twist* Dec. 22, 8 p.m.; tickets cost the Castro's usual \$6. — **Daniel Mangin**

**BOOKS**

Books

Continued from page 37

wood's most curious careers. He got his start acting in Biograph films in 1913 and directing at Mutual in 1915, but is remembered today mostly for later works, such as the Bela Lugosi *Dracula* (1931) and the still-provocative *Freaks* (1932).



This well-researched biography tracks Browning from his early days in the South to his slow, alcohol-abetted decline following the release of *Freaks*. His heyday was the '20s, when he teamed with Lon Chaney on several pictures that "explored their mutual interest in themes of boiling sexual frustration and concomitant, visceral revenge."

If *Freaks* and other Browning flicks seem like anomalies during the generally tasteful reign of Irving Thalberg at MGM, they were, though Skal and Savada note that the "boy wonder" producer in backing Browning's pictures had, "in essence, recognized the profitability of Hollywood assuming the role of moral good cop and bad cop, playing not only to the public's appetite for extravagant sex fantasy but to its puritanical resistance as well." Browning rode this wave to some success before tastes changed and his personal demons overtook him.

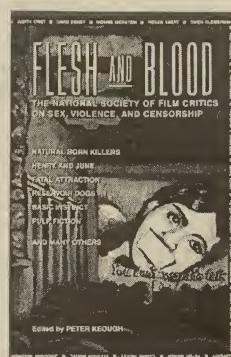
Flesh and Blood: The National Society of Film Critics on Sex, Violence and Censorship edited by Peter Keough; Mercury House, \$16.95

puts the genre into historical and literary context.

Noted film theorists Bob Dole and Bill Bennett were careful to keep their hands off staunch Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger's product, but in "The Mother-Whore Dilemma in *True Lies*" Jami Bernard makes a compelling case that, at least in the sexual realm, director James Cameron really didn't denigrate women, specifically female lead Jamie Lee Curtis. Her Helen is sassy, resourceful and, notes Bernard, "is able to fulfill Harry's (Schwarzenegger's) fantasies without really buying into them." This, Bernard claims, "is why *True Lies* doesn't turn off its female audience."

The movies' ultimate role in shaping societal behavior — as opposed to reflecting prevailing attitudes — is hard to discern, but is likely nowhere near as pivotal as some scapegoats would like to think. After briefly discussing the loosening of censorship in the 1960s, Wilmington points out that "the staggering real-life violence of the '60s" came not from the films but from "the Vietnam war... the massive proliferation of firearms, the spread of the criminal syndicate and its satellite drug industry."

"...Wasn't the sexual revolution the result of the birth control



pill and more effective contraception? Is any historian of the future going to spend more than a few seconds evaluating the contributions of *Psycho* or *The Wild Bunch* — or all the decade's violent and sexy movies put together — in all this?"

These and other observations in *Flesh and Blood* provide needed perspective. One needn't agree with the various critics' assessments of popular favorites to acknowledge that the representation of taboo subjects is far more complex than knee-jerk social commentators of all political stripes let on. ▶

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Sun 11/19 6P BMWSF. You smiling attractive Chinese (Mercedes). Me: Tall, Blond European (BMW). We: American, hopefully, no nonsense about performance/body parts. Let's talk swap meet. Will you honor me by calling? ☎ 7655.

Hey Rickey!

Met briefly as volunteer waiters on Thanksgiving. You: With girl (Colleen). Me: Buzz cut, 'satche. Interested in coffee/talk? ☎ 7769.

Peninsula Family YMCA

Sat Mateo week of July 4. You tall, smooth, young, uncut. Me: Shorter, hairy, older, uncut. Where have you been? I want to meet you. Please answer this ad. ☎ 7601.

Corner Market

& 7th, Fri Nov 11, 8pm
You cute boy blue sweat shirt & jeans. Me: Guy driving blue convertible with woman in passenger seat. We smacked at each other many times. Lets meet. ☎ 7604.

16th/Mission

Fri 11/17, 11am
I almost ran into you on the corner. We smiled and then watched each other from opposite stops for the 2nd. You went toward 3rd St. Me: black thk jacket w/ cuffs. Hot & bothered 4U! ☎ 7605.

Mornings On Mum

I've only seen you from a distance, but really like what I see. You board Murri at Castro St. a little before 7:00am. You are always dressed impeccably. You're over 6' tall, black hair, nice build, and you recently started wearing glasses. You usually carry a large briefcase. Please let me know how to meet you. ☎ 7801.

Blonde Man

On F Line Market
On Wed. Nov 7 I was walking on Market St by the corner of Market St & Church St. You were on an old yellow car in the window facing downtown. It was between 9:15-9:30. We made eye contact. I was wearing black short w/ sweat shirt & yellow sport walkman. ☎ 7631.

Sat Eve, 11/18 24 Line Bus

You: JFK Jr. look-a-like wearing baseball cap, wallet w/ 2 friend's way to dinner on Haight St. We exchanged stolen glances while waiting for bus at Geary/Davis. Are you interested in meeting? ☎ 7632.

Macy's Union Square (Outside)

Sunday, 11/26, approx 3pm. You Latin, spatoe, green & white checked shirt. Me: White, your height, brown hair, dk green crew neck, w/ blonde friend I stopped. I looked. You smiled. I ran. Please call ☎ 7701.

Public Storage,

Nov 26, 4pm, EPA
You: Hispanic, 5'11", hot tight jeans, dark shirt. Arizona lic plate. Jeep like auto. Me: Carrying x-mas tree, frame lights, said "Hello" Want to meet you. I'm Asian. ☎ 7702.

Hey Rickey

Met briefly as volunteer waiters on Thanksgiving. You: With girl (Colleen). Me: Buzz cut, 'satche. Interested in coffee/talk? ☎ 7769.

#8 Bus, Friday, 11/24, 7pm
You: Beige jacket. Me: Teddy bear, sweatshirt, blue canvas bag. We made a great deal of eye contact, but neither of us spoke. When I got off the bus you were still looking out the window at me. Would like to meet pls call. ☎ 7703.

Club One, 11/22/95

We were working out. Talked later in the locker room. You were leaving for Colorado for the holiday. I was with a friend from Nebraska. Enjoyed our time & conversation. Would like to talk more. ☎ 7704.

24Hour Nautilus

2nd & Folsom, Monday, 11/20. You were watching 49ers post game show. You: Young, very cute, dark hair. Me: Short, light brown hair, tank top, black fancy pack. Let's meet! ☎ 7705.

Flight 2140

11/21 United Shuttle Flight 2140. Burbank to SFO. You're tall, s/p bearded hunk. I'm bearded too and w/ black leather. We both live in SF. Call. ☎ 7706.

Noe Valley Asian

With "CBS Evening News" shoulder bag. 24th St. between Castro and Noe, 11/7, 8:50am, strawberry blonde hunk parking car would like to meet you. ☎ 7707.

Earthquake Sun 11/19

You: Reddish brown hair and beard, shy, attractive w/ two older women. Me: Silver hair, stocky guy in gym shorts, distinguished looking. We kept staring at each other. Please call. ☎ 7708.

Daddy's Bar, Nov 22 8pm

You: Asian, muscle man in white T-shirt w/ 3 friends near windows in front of bar. Me: Preppy man-squeak-clean, white dress shirt, glasses. We looked at each other a lot. Now let's talk. ☎ 7709.

Hole In The Wall 11/22, 11-1am

You: Tall, handsome, w/ short hair and charming eyes, wearing blk. lthr cycle jacket, t-shirt, and trousers. Me: In blk lthr cap and Harley-Davidson t-shirt. We shared a couple of glances but I was too shy to say hello. Would very much like to correct this mistake. ☎ 7710.

Stud 11/22

You: blond. Told your black friend you were military. Me: blond, blue cap, in front of you in line. Wish I'd said hello. You were really hot. ☎ 7748.

California Bus Stop At Divisadero

Wednesday, Nov 22, 10:00am. You seemed to be running late as I saw you run to catch the bus. We both kept looking at each other as I crossed the street. I wish I had had more time to act. Let's try again! ☎ 7749.

Marcus From Pleasanton

I met you Badlands July 2, 1995. We went to my friends apartment. Please answer this ad. I want to see you again. ☎ 7602.

Oscar C SFH/OHS

I really like your "shot". Maybe we could inject some thing else after hours? My site, your needles? Jonathan. ☎ 7603.

Carl Deliriously Searching For Norman, Club Asia 12/1

Your smiling gaze stunned me into hypothesized notice. You vanished like a spirit leaving a tantalizing perfume behind before I could stuttering speak. My bluely desiring body has not stopped vibrating since. Call me with the kiss of your voice. ☎ 7801.

Union 76

You: black mustang. Me: Black Saab. You offered to wash my windshield. I joked about paying you a dollar and spent to join the rat race; but no matter how busy I am, I keep thinking of you. You call me please. ☎ 7802.

Cute Asian Male 11/28

You cute guy with laundry basket in tan Polo jacket crossing 17th street at Clayton. Me: GWM in green Volvo around 10pm. Would like to meet you. Please give me a call. ☎ 7803.

Markets & 17th

Tues 11/28, 8pm
You: tall, handsome walking with smaller gray haired man toward Castro St. Me: Bald, glasses, black leather jacket. You gave me the eye. We've played (anonymously). Let's do it again. ☎ 7804.

Roberto: Midnight Sun

We met near the door on Saturday night. Dec. 2. You thought I might be Italian. Would love to talk to you again. Hope you call. My name is Mark. ☎ 7805.

Grey Mercedes Benz

Tuesday night 12/5. You got into your car in front of Walgreens. I was crossing Castro St. w/ my motorcycle helmet in hand. We kept looking. We both have mustaches. How about lunch? ☎ 7834.

CMK Pool

You: Stache, hot. Me: Hot, very good-looking, young, admirer. Give a call. ☎ 7805.

1808 Club, Saturday, 12/2, 12pm.

You have dark brown hair with a ponytail, tan body. I have brown hair, mustache, glasses (I took them off), hairy chest. And I told you, you are the sexiest man! I would love to get together again! ☎ 7835.

Non-Dality Creamer

Versatile but primarily top guy. I'm 42, strong/chubby, white, 5'6", 150*, gdikng, hairy, healthy & horny. Sex first, possible LTR/friendship later. Be Asian, over 30, slightly overweight. ☎ 7614.

BEST FOOT FORWARD

GWM hoping to meet life partner.

self-awareness, compassion, and good communication essential. Terrible looks nice but not necessary. Me: 5'9", 40, 165*, attractive, good shape. Foot play a must. ☎ 7613.

Atypical Ronni Baker's Beach

We had a great day talking at the beach. I am looking to know more about you. We exchanged numbers, but I misplaced yours! Hope you read this and call... T. ☎ 7840.

Weishman

We met at Folsom video arcade, 11/21. You're hot and talented. Let's do it again! ☎ 7768.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP M-M

No Games!

If you are a successful, healthy, professional or business man and would like to spoil an attractive young looking European male in his 20's, please leave a message. ☎ 7615.

Asian Seeks GWM For LTR

Me: GWM, mid 30's, 5'9", 142*, honest, caring, sincere, enjoy life. You: GWM, 40's & up, reliable, honest, not afraid to commit, HIV+, height & weight proportionate. No fake. Love romance on regular basis. No drug/ No smoke. ☎ 7616.

All Races Welcome

To answer this ad by a friendly caring 46yo, average height, HIV-. Intelligent and sensitive. ☎ 7618.

Looking For Romance (Lover)

Romantic, gding, HIV-. GAM/FM, late 30's like quiet times, hugging, kissing and sense of humor, movies and out doors. I'm 5'9", 170*, w/ mstche. You're a GWM, 35-45, mstche. poetic, romantic, HIV-, sense of humor, like cuddle, kissing, quiet times, for a long time, friendship, relationship. ☎ 7617.

Looking For Earthbound Man

Affectionate, GWM, 36yo, 5'6", hirsute, healthy, HIV+, cubby wants down to earth, honest, stable, romantic, top 25-40 for LTR. I've got a good smile, hairy body, bushy demenor and like samé. I'm 35yo. ☎ 7643.

I'm Tired Of Videos

I want to be up close and watch 2 guys get it on. Let's have some fun and have some hot sex. I'm in shape, 30yo. ☎ 7634.

Serious Boyfriend Material

Handsome, strong, 34yo, WM, br/bm, 6', 165*, not into bars. I'm straight acting, active, out, educated, creative, responsible, professional, down-to-earth, honest, hairy hair, new in town. You are also WM, fit, 30ish, non-flaky, see above. ☎ 7635.

Single Cute College Student

Black-Filipino, 34yo, WM, good build, 5'11", 180*, caring, loving, honest, passionate & romantic with many interests. You: 35-50, bottom, NS, looking for fun, love & ltr. ☎ 7715.

Orlando Tights

GWM, professional in Florida has sensual fetish for the feel/look of nylon/cyra. Not into drag. Loves bay area & friends, bicycling, ballet & kitties. ☎ 7636.

Want You To Save Me

6', 165*, 39yo, GBM, HIV-, seeks LTR oriented HIV+ guy who knows what he wants and how to get it for LTR. You are 30-45yo, enjoys quiet evenings next to a fire long kisses, holding hands, intimacy & traveling to far away places. ☎ 7611.

Hopeless Romantic Seeks Same

We: Zanny, creative, educated, healthy. You: probably, G/A/W/M like the scene as well as home time. Live in SF, be a top. Me: bottom GWM, early 50's, 5'10", 210lbs. Call! ☎ 7637.

Cute?

GWM, 27, Handsome, strong, 7', silent, fit, educated, conscientious, main stream, enjoys younger, cute, boy next door characters. ☎ 7712.

Divisadero Carwash 11/4

You: Gay hair and beard, ears pierced.

Wearing purple sweater and jeans. Me: AM who smiled at you. We cruised each other. Would like to see you again. Get in touch w/ me! ☎ 7638.

Best Foot Forward

GWM hoping to meet life partner. self-awareness, compassion, and good communication essential. Terrible looks nice but not necessary. Me: 5'9", 40, 165*, attractive, good shape. Foot play a must. ☎ 7640.

Calling All Mormons

Atypical mormon, recently relocated from bountiful Utah. Looking for 18-26yo, bl/bl mormon men for friendship and possible LTR. ☎ 7614.

Private Gloryhole

Cockslucker Downtown GWM, 35, 5'9", 165*, HIV+, handsome, good shape, seeks gay, strait, bi, white or Mediterranean. HIV+, in shape, guys who love to be served hopefully on a regular basis. Leave detailed message. ☎ 7717.

Tall + Nice = Me

6'4", slim, southern and sweet. Professional interests in music, movies, literature. Looking for someone within 10yrs of my age (28) for whatever feels appropriate. GWM, HIV+, stable person. ☎ 7718.

Husband Hunting?

Cute prof. GWM, 33, 5'5", 160*, 140*, bln/blu, recently single + new to SF, see strong, affectionate, GWM, top, 25-35, w/ sense of humor & lusty physical appetites. I'm no non-sense, like movies, books, dogs & romance. ☎ 7719.

Tall Trim Top

Aroused by power exchange? Safely explore submission w/ smart, sexy, successful. GWM, 42, HIV-. Prefer: 30' attractive, spiritual, ND. NS. ☎ 7751.

German Tannenbaum For Xmas

Wonderful, GWM, 40, professional, 6'1", 175*, HIV-, LA based German speaking/traveled, into the Arts, film, etc. seeks handsome German/Austrian age 30's early 40's w/ similar interests for friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 7766.

Middle Eastern Sougth

Nice Persian or other M.E. men's 30's early 40's sought by handsome, discreet, hairy GBM, 40, 6'1", 175, HIV-LA based. I am professional, into the Arts, film and enjoy Middle-Eastern culture. Lets be friends. ☎ 7767.

Seeking HIV+ or HIV-Guys

I'm Latino, 24, 5'7", 170*, dark skinned, university student, mostly a top. Would like to meet Latins or whites 21-35 for friendship maybe more. Prefer someone who is outgoing, extrovert and humorous. ☎ 7806.

Seeking Very Handsome, Masculine Couple For LTR

Unaffected, affectionate, mainly, dark Italian, very endowed, 32yo, 5'4"-5'6", 175-180*, muscular face, hair, seeks other very muscular progressive. Passions: Nature, architecture, Europe, Italy, Music 1890-1940, contemporary art, antiques, gardening. NS, east coast a +. ☎ 7807.

HIV+, GBM Seeks GWM Top

Healthy, HIV+, GBM, 36, 170*, 5'11"; seeks GWM top. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 7837.

Let's Get Together

Easy on the eyes. 100% bottom, 38yo, 5'6", looking for LTR with a hung 100% top between ages of 35-45. Must be social, romantic & sensual. Sense of humor a must. ND. ☎ 7809.

HIV+, GBM Seeks GWM Top

Healthy, HIV+, GBM, 36, 170*, 5'11"; seeks GWM top. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 7837.

Bar Talk Personals are FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Use only the space provided.
Do not attach additional paper or text. Deadline for ads is Wednesday, 5 pm.

for the following week's issue. New ads will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. We reserve the right to edit ads.

Select One: Parting Glances Seeking Relationship M-M Seeking Adventure M-M

Seeking Relationship W-W Seeking Adventure W-W Fetishes Couples Other

Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____

Address _____ Apt No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Write your headline here: _____ (stop here)

Write the rest of the ad here: _____ (stop here)

_____ (stop here)

_____ (stop here)

Mail to: BarTalk, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

BAR TALK

South American Latino 2B
I'm 5'7", 170#, light skinned, facial hair, attractive, very athletic. Looking for a relationship. Would like to meet Latins or white, 25-38, HIV+, someone not afraid to be yourself, and serious replies. ☎ 7810.

HIV+ Dad For HIV+ Son
Attractive, 49, Br/Br, 5'11", 170#, healthy, passionate, bottom, social, gentle, intense love of life, professional, fluent Spanish. You: Articulate, educated, in shape, employed, want to be a long term survivor, spiritual, ready to settle down, passionate, any race, no drugs. It's drinking OK. ☎ 7811.

New Kid In Town!
GWM, 29, 6'2", 195#, brown hair, blue eyes, HIV+, intelligent, spiritual, classy, creative, into people, politics, ideas, 2-step, Br Country, art films, anything Celtic, BBC, NPR, PBS, CNN, seeks tall, clean-cut, mostly top, GWM 28-38 for friendship, romance or whatever. ☎ 7812.

Hungry Subm. Bottom Wanted.
Hot man, 58, 6'2", good build wants good looking bottom. No pain or sleaze, just hot leather sex, fantasy, kink and possible LTR. ☎ 7814.

Husband Material
GWM, HIV+, smoker, social drinker, top, 5'10", 165#, 48yo and still single. I'm educated, intelligent, articulate and I like simple pleasures. Seek comparable GWM. ☎ 7815.

Ebay, HIV+, Latin Top Wanted
Prefers Capricorn, or Virgo who smokes, HIV+, 33, bl/bl, 6', 180#, handsome widow in Concord area. Needs dark Papacito. ☎ 7816.

Black Or Hispanic Men Alert
Quality GWM in Sacto seeks LTR w/ quality GBM/GHM. I'm 5'3", 175#, br/br, late 30's, HIV+, attractive, gyned, outgoing, good body, sense of humor. Interests include sports, music, movies. Seeking GWM/HGM, 25-45, athletic, stable, HIV+, NS/ND with similar interests. Willing to try long distance relationship to see what happens. ☎ 7817.

Where Are You?
Very cute, athletic, 28, 6', ND/HIV+. seeks similar to LTR. ☎ 7818.

Smooth Muscled Live In Slave Wanted
WM, master, 40, hairy, masc, masc, 185+, 5'11", clean shaven seeks obedient smooth muscled slave boy for live in position. UB under 30, employed, smooth, toned - or don't bother. ☎ 7836.

All But The Best
The best part of life is the social side, w/o companionship, the rest is meaningless. Normal guy, cute, boyish body, 5'8", 140#, swimmer, brn/bl, HIV+, 30ish, (looks younger) great job, educated, like field over opera. ☎ 7838.

Crazy For You!
Would like to be. I'm 6'3", 33, 200#, br/bl, muscular, workout enthusiast, buzzed hair, pierced ears, sensual, responsive, HIV+, healthy ISO similar younger, gym body romantic & crazy for me. ☎ 7848.

Let's JO Together
GWM, HIV-, 40s, 5'11", 190#, hairy, stocky, and uncircumcised seeks younger smoother in shape GWM or GLM, HIV- for mutual JO and oral sex. ☎ 7849.

Wanted: Masculine Bottom
Hunk, sporty, masculine. Latvian WGM, (youthful), attractive, 40's, 5'6", 145#. HIV+ wants sparkly, in-shape insightful affectionate, bottom. Pluses: Bicultural values, outdoorsman, spiritual wiring, under 5'9". ☎ 7850.

SEEKING ADVENTURE M-M

Artist/Schoolmaster
Sks intellectually curious pantomime students who would respond to creative station underscored by rhythmic discipline. Should have strengths to offer as well as need to receive. Sale only, HIV+, hung, body hair, muscles, peninsular location all +. ☎ 7819.

Likely To Be Bullied?
Ever been de-panted and made to run around in your briefs in semi-public? Ever have your clothes forcibly taken? Ever been tied up as on adolescent and sexually used? GWM, 30's looking for thin, younger, 18-30yo. Tell me how you were bullied as a teen and we can start where left off. ☎ 7822.

Handsome Asian
Tall, exceptionally good looking Asian top. Looking for Asians or any other race under age of 32 for fun or more. You: Good looking, in shape. Me: 6'2", 170#. ☎ 7823.

Give It Up
To this ripped, handsome, dad, 5'11", 160#, well-defined, muscular, strong hands, steady mind. If you're a scrawny-to-bean boy, under 35, with a hungry ass, a buzzed head, and the right attitude, you're gonna be glad you made the call. ☎ 7824.

Bubble Butt Admirer Needed

Nice lkg, 38yo, WM, needly, in shape guy w/ big muscle legs, nice chest, and a big muscle bubble butt. Sks beefy or stocky well built guy who's masculine to fuck this hot ass. HIV- only. ☎ 7825.

Distinguished Tokers & Tits
Seeking men totally into JO, kissing, tit play, more important than muscles. Thin, strange, fun, hairy, smooth, crazy +++. Any age, race. ☎ 7826.

Weekday Sex Buddy Sought

By gdkg, GWM, 29, 5'9", 170#, br/br, I work out and am very oral. Love kissing, servicing & mutual JO w/ gdkg gay/bi white males, in decent shape between 25-40. Available Mon/Tues. Day only. ☎ 7827.

Husky Latin

Looking for top kinky older men into sex but uninhibited sex let me smell your dirty jocky shorts while you fuck me, no BS, late night OK. ☎ 7844.

GW Bottom Wanted

Just need on GW bottom (25-45) to meet on a regular basis for passionate & intense fun. Safe sex only. I am HIV- with a 7 1/2" tool waiting for you. If interested, & serious call me. ☎ 7845.

Deep Throat

Complete oral attention all for you. Uncut Asian or Latin. Tall, attractive, discreet, GWM, knows how to please. ☎ 7849.

Tall, Black Master Wanted by Tall White Slaveboy

I'm 32yo, 6'2", cute, in shape, submissive and dreaming of something I've never had; a tall 25-30yo dominant, hung black, gorgeous man to force feed me his dick and cum (I swallow) slap me, whip me, fuck me, piss on me, etc. Anytime, anywhere you want. I'm your boy, Sir! ☎ 7729.

Have It His Way

Surrender control to this handsome Asian/Hawaiian hunk, 34, w/ smooth, chiseled muscular body, he loves to pump your face and butt. You might want him to lay you up and make you cum helplessly. You should be gilling, trim/muscular playful. Ready to seduce this hunk with your ass? ☎ 7729.

Insatiable Btm

Has openings for dom. men who need relief ask Roger. ☎ 7825.

Want Milk?

My thick nipples produce through work shirt. Need serious tug/suck. Musc blue collar, 38, 6'11", 180#. Not BB or bottom. Bitch tits on handsome guy. ☎ 7730.

Front Row Seat Wanted:

I really only got watching my young friend getting his huge dick serviced. Deep throats only who like an audience should call. Just a good clean time. No flakes or hustlers pls. ☎ 7731.

Hot Wet Man Pussy

ISO hung, thick, black or Hispanic dick for hot, deep, sloppy wet action. No games, no bullshit. Not into scene Discretion assured. ☎ 7739.

Hey Little Buddy

Top GWM, 5'8", 180#, 31, seeking bottoms 5'6", 140# or smaller for fun time. ☎ 7734.

Fat Boys

Looking for fat boys 300# and over to sit on my face and have some serious fun. ☎ 7733.

Mixed Race GWM Seeks Love For The Holidays

Or at least hours of drug free sex, fun outside, warm evenings inside and home cooked meals. I look under 40, attractive, versatile and sincere. ☎ 7738.

Super Hot, Butch & Nasty Stud

Sks same to rim, suck, kiss, ride hard cock. I'm 40, 5'9", 180#, bid, flat-top, hd bar stash, HIV+, police tattoos, wear uniforms. ☎ 7740.

Fantasy/Nudity/Eroticism

Gym-toned, attractive, Asian, 35, 5'9", 150+, give or take, seeks good looking & intense fun. Safe sex only. I am HIV- with a 7 1/2" tool waiting for you. If interested, & serious call me. ☎ 7762.

Young Cum Eating Slavecum Wanted

By 33yo, GWM, mean, hung, in shape, good looking, cock feeder. You have to be 18-30yo, cute, boyish looking submissive, always hungry. I'll slap you, piss on you, pull your hair and make you swallow my cum over & over. Any race. Eat it boy! ☎ 7819.

Deep Throat Therapy For Horse Cocks

Mature, tanned husky, GWM seeks men hung unusually long and thick. I can deep throat 10X to the balls. Have met only a couple of guys that were too big, so they fucked me. If satisfaction is what you need, call me. No age or race restrictions. ☎ 7822.

Tall, Dark, Handsome & Hot

6'2", 190#, muscular, 40, top notch w/ big dick looking for honest, similar versatile for mutual oral, man to man connecting, hell rising. ☎ 7628.

All B* Of My Sweet Manhood Are

"Out on the Island" and in need of a masculine man with a deep throat or receptive rear to satisfy me. Please be sincere, available and easy to reach by phone. I'm no young beauty but I'm a hot, sexy, tasty treat. ☎ 7828.

Cock Sucker

Hungry for dick. If you are masculine, stocky and can give verbal abuse and instruction I'll be on my knees. I'm very masculine, good looking, WM. One time or regular service. ☎ 7829.

Thin Muscle Fuck Guys

My most intense and wanted sex fantasy involves thin, sinewy, muscle dick/tuck/flex/it play. I want to explore sexual limits with thin/handsome guys, tops and bottoms welcomed. You must enjoy fucking. Defined biceps, veiny arms, and/or defined abs major turn ons. ☎ 7830.

Dog Leashed Foot Grouper

Hirsute, HIV-, older, attractive, clean-cut. eBay man needs to worship, grovel, kiss your feet & be your foot slave & cock eater. Nice. Only hot footed tops only, very seriously seeking this. ☎ 7627.

FF Submissive

w/ bondage sling, ISO strong arm top-fet master. You are in total control. NHB All night party. Top couples welcome. In shape, 59, 5'11", 160#. HIV+, tats, beard, hot oral service, deep wide pigout hole. You: Any stats. ☎ 7628.

Like Your Butt Sucked?

Very hot ass eaters seek very verbal hairy assed facersitters into butt feeding on my meat. I'm gd, long, 38, 6'2", 165#. wags, buzzcut with big toilet seat stache. You: Facial hair, 30+, hot pig tail heavy into rim jobs. Clean or not. Tops only. ☎ 7629.

In Need Of Main 65 Or Over

Stranger older WM seeks to fulfill fantasy where you grab my head, fast/slow fuck my face, bang your balls against my chin, then stand back. JO & shoot your hot load on my face, rubbing it in with your cock. ☎ 7741.

Tickle Tickle Tickle

Extremely ticklish GWM seeks other extremely ticklish GWM 22-30 to share the joy and laughter of life. ☎ 7742.

Hung Uncut Nude

Serious GWM artist of erotica w/ limited mobility needs tattooed, pierced, hung, uncut, nude models. Serious only no \$ must travel to RR Area for sitings leave name, number, & description 4 callback. ☎ 7743.

Do You Have Huge Luscious Nipples?

Looking for a muscular guy who knows how to treat them! I'm 38, muscular and an expert in servicing huge, thick nipples. 1" or longer, the thicker and bigger the better! Please, only replies. ☎ 7745.

Diaper Fetish?

30yo, GWM, looking for other men who get into wearing and using diapers. Wet & messy a plus. ☎ 7746.

Hot Fisting Bottom HWW+

In shape mature tough but, 5'11", 165, short step, beard & hair, tatts all over, seeks topless with powerpack arm, your way, all the way. NHB, all night party. Make it blubber. Wide deep hole grabs your arm. You: Any stats. Top couples OK. ☎ 7765.

Muscle Worship

WM, late, 40's, seeks muscular guys of any size into flexing and being admired. Let my hands and tongue worship your body as you show off biceps, pecs and legs. ☎ 7832.

Nice Guy Loves Barefoot

I have enjoyed lifelong excitement looking at men, especially about men's barefeet. I'm very aroused sexually and safe sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, and caressing barefoot in reciprocal action/JO. Gilding Ebay, GWM, 5'8", 140#, tanned, bearded, HIV+, NA, WM. ☎ 7841.

Aroused By A Man's Shaved Head On Body?

Intrigued by the idea of shaving a guy or submitting to it yourself? This good looking GWM, early 30's into shaving, being naked, tit play, butt play, JO, kissing, oral, spanking, bondage, domination. Looking for about the same. ☎ 7842.

Golden Gallions

Very thirsty piss drinker wanted to handle gusher from big hole. Experienced, mature only. ☎ 7843.

OTHER

Wrestling

30's AM, gym slave, smooth all-muscle, definition body, 5'6", 135#. ISO athletic fun loving smooth muscular guys in their 20's and 30's for safe fun roll-in-the-hay type wrestling. ☎ 7652.

Wrestling Sport Of Kings

6', 180#, wrestler sees same size to wrestle, clean technique. Nobody gets hurt. Both guys win. I look like Tarzan. It's OK if you don't. We'll both do some winning and have a fun time. Nude, wrestling only! ☎ 7746.

Single Redhead

34, 5'10", 170#, enjoys talk radio, exercise, the outdoors and reading. Ex-Navy clerk in Petaluma, Santa Rosa native. Seeks female companionship. ☎ 7630.

Exhibitionist Seeks Others

Bi WM, 30's seeks bi, gay, or straight females who enjoy watching my private strip tease, JO. Show at my place, and if you're up for it, I might even use my butt plugs. ☎ 7833.

FETISHES

Booted Bubble Butted Blondes

Attractive middle aged guy seeks good looking girls fitting above descriptions for footlocking & ass kissing sessions. Also like to get spanked. ☎ 7744.

THIS WEEK

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 15

All These Girls

"And Video Too," lesbian-focused and produced videos. Benefits SF directors Len Keller and Karen Everett. \$6. 7pm, Diva, niteclub women, 314 11th St. **487-6320**.

Burn

Performance, dance and music. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$8-12. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 2940 16th St. #216C. **863-2989**.

Candlelight and Star Glow

Voci, women's choral ensemble, in concert: Britton's "Ceremony of Carols," more. \$9. 8:15pm Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento. **474-1608**.

A Chanticleer Christmas

Premier vocal ensemble performs chant, carols, spirituals. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. \$19-26. St. Ignatius Church, 650 Parker. **392-4400**.

Club Foot Orchestra

Live performance accompanying G.W. Pabst's *Pandora's*

Fri-Sun. at 8pm. \$15.50. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida. **647-6035**.

Joan Jett Blakk's Town Meeting

Interactive forum: drag queen hostess, guests Harriet Dodge, Stanya Kahn, Fluffyboy. Fri. & Sat. at 10pm. \$7-10. The LAB, 2948 16th St. **864-8855**.

The Joy of Gay Sex

John Fisher's debut musical

comedy in a return engagement. Thurs. & Fri. thru

12/29. \$17-20. 8pm. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. **436-0806**.

Looking Back

Works by Michael Shanoski, reception tonight, 6pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. **771-0663**.

MAX

Men's Associated Exchange hosts gay men for afterwork cocktails. \$5. 6pm. Neiman Marcus Rotunda Restaurant. **442-1994**.

Mona Rogers In Person

Helen Shumaker as Mona, extended run Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/31. \$16-18. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. **956-8497**.

Nude Coffee

All-female comedy troupe. Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 11pm, thru 12/16. \$12. Exit Theater, 156 Eddy. **(510) 549-0624**.

The Nutmeg Project

Robert Henry Johnson Dance Co. and BES Children's Educational Theatre present alternative dance-theatre for

Let Me Listen. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/16 at 8pm. \$12. Braval Studio Theatre, 2180 Bryant. **337-4390**.

Women's Prison Christmas

Artfull Circle Theatre presents a new musical comedy set in a women's prison on Xmas Eve, thru 12/23, call for times. \$15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **861-8972**.

Saturday 16

Angels: Songs of the Seraphim

SF Gay Men's Chorus holiday concert. Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Masonic Auditorium. Call for info. **392-4400**.

Barbara Cook

In-store autograph signing of her new CD, *The Broadway Years*. 2:30pm. Star Classics, 425 Hayes. **552-1110**.

The Black Cat

Staged reading of Joseph R. Castel's play about the life of Jose Sarria. \$5-8. 7:30pm. Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission. **554-8436**.

Club Confidential

"Contemptuous," campy cabaret lounge with Pussy Tourette, Arturo Galster, Nao Bustamante, more, benefits Please Louise Productions and Museo Contempo. \$10-20. 8:30pm. Embassy Lounge, 600 Polk. **864-5453**.

Drag Strip

New genderbending nightspot presents "Holidays On Ice." Fishstix, Elvis

▲ Friday

Karen Everett's *Framing Lesbian Fashion*, part of "All These Girls and Video, Too" at Diva.



▲ Friday

Courtesy: Gaschwitz (Alice Roberts), Lulu (Louise Brooks), and Ludwig Schoen (Eric Kortner) in G.W. Pabst's *Pandora's Box*, with original score, composed and performed live by Club Foot Orchestra at the Castro Theatre.

Box and Buster Keaton's *Sherlock Jr*: PB: Fri-Sun. at 8pm. \$10; SJ: Sat. & Sun. at 2:45pm. \$5. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. **621-6120**.

The Desk Set

All-male version of William Marchant's 1955 play examines the corporate closet. Directed by Danny Scheie. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/16, tonight at 8pm. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **861-5079**.

Feltch Films

Porn, physique movies, found footage, curated by Charles Lofton. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. **824-3890**.

The Gypsy Trail

FatChanceBellyDance presents evening of dance inspired by gypsy traditions.

holidays. Fri. at 7:30pm, Sun. at 3pm. \$5. Buñuel Clay Mem'l Theatre, 762 Fulton. **824-4782**.

A Portrait of Patsy Cline

Country-western musical tribute starring Joni Morris. Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/30. 8pm. Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary. **392-4400**.

The Trouble With Angels

The Sick and Twisted Players production of the '66 movie. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/23. \$10-12. 8:30pm. Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **861-5079**.

Tennessee Williams One-Acts

27 Wagons Full of Cotton & Talk To Me Like the Rain and More. Fort Mason. **436-0806**.

Hershelvis, Birdy-Bob Watt, more. \$7 in drag, \$11 other. 9pm-3am. Transmission Theatre, 314 11th St. **621-7923**.

Gay Comedy Night

Marilyn Pittman, Nicolle Wiedig, Gail Hand. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933**.

Jump Cuts! Take Two

New Pickle Circus tour-de-force. Thru 1/1, call for times. \$12-22. Today at 2&7:30pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. **436-0400**.

Medea, the Musical

John Fisher's hybrid of Euripides and Busby Berkeley, performed by SassyMouth. Sat. thru 12/30. 8pm. 2&8pm. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. **436-0806**.

Nutcracker

Oakland Ballet accompanied by Oakland East Bay Symphony. Thru 12/24, call for times. \$5-35. Tonight at 7pm. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. **(510) 762-2277**.

Pumping Copy

Monologist Josh Kornbluth reveals the inner life of a lowly copy editor. Thru 12/31, call for times. \$10-15. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. **826-5750**.

Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie

The Dance Brigade presents multicultural, multi-generational dance/theatre extravaganza. Sat. & Sun. at 2&8pm. \$11-16. Scottish Rite Theatre, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland. **(510) 652-0752**.

▲ Wednesday

Danny Scheie is Apollo on Rollerblades in Charles L. Mee's radical reworking of Euripides' *Creusa* at Nourse Auditorium.

K

Sunday 17

Beer Bust

Pacific Bears California L/MC host bust, benefits charity. \$6, 12-3pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro. **621-8732**.

Dance Along Nutcracker

SF Winds of Freedom performs with Marga Gomez, Jose Serria, the Bay Area Raw Rabs, cabaret singers Lisa Gray, Dan Johnson. Free at 2:30pm, \$10 at 6pm. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. **978-ARTS**.

From the West:

"Chicano Narrative Photography," opening reception today, 4pm. Thru 3/3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D. Fort Mason.

Mary's Unplugged

Kerry Hansen and friends, country rock music, no cover. 9pm. Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom. **626-1985**.

Menorah Lighting

First candle of 22-ft. menorah is lit, kicking off chanukah. 5:30pm. Union Square.

Peter and the Wolf

Alasdair Neale leads the SF Symphony Youth Orchestra in Prokofiev's musical story. Michael Tilson Thomas narrator. \$8-36. 10-4pm. Davies Symphony Hall. **864-6000**.

ManDreams

Erotic photographs by Greg Day, from vintage 70s to Powerplay covermen, thru Dec. Castro Station, 456 Castro.

Tuesday 19

Artists and the Nude

Group show incl. Sabato Fiorello, Simone Gad, Luc Janssens. Afternoons or by appt., thru 1/12. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. **284-0567**.

David Farnsworth

Pen, ink, watercolor drawings. Thru 12/31. Darbury Stenderu, 541 Hayes. **861-3020**.

Luis Mallo

Cuban-born, NY-based photographer's photos of trains and train stations. Thru 1/5. Galleria, UC Extension Center, 55 Laguna. **252-5221**.

Picasso the Sculptor

First exhibition of Picasso's sculptures on the West Coast. Thru 3/10. Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. & Clement. **863-3330**.

Prayer and Medication

Pictures by Roman X, thru Dec. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom.

Wednesday 20

Gaslight

A.C.T.'s production of Patrick Hamilton's suspense classic opens. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/28, call for times. \$15-41. 8pm. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. **749-2ACT**.

Gay Skate

Ink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. **1-800-473-8658**.

Holiday Nutcrackin'

SF comic Mark Davis and Seattle comedy duo Dos Fallopia in a twisted tribute to the holidays. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/31. \$12-14. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933**.

Images of Faith

Religious art: paintings and sculptures from 18th thru 20th centuries. Thru 12/31. Polanco, 393 Hayes. **252-5753**.

Kiss of the Spider Woman

Chita Rivera stars in the musical based on the novel by Manuel Puig. Wed.-Sun. at various times thru 12/23. Tonight at 8pm. \$32-62.50. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. **474-3800**.

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. **241-0425**.

Points of Entry:

"Reframing America," seven European émigré photographers. Also: "S-21: Portraits from the Killing Fields." Khmer Rouge brutality. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/7. \$4. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. **495-7000**.

Seven Guitars

A.C.T. presents August Wilson's latest play: 1948 African American life. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/23, call for times. \$15-41. 8pm. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. **749-2ACT**.

Weslia Whitfield

Performing great American popular songs by Gershwin, Porter, Rodgers & Hart, more. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/31. \$20-25. Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter. **885-2800**.

Thursday 21

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. **241-0425**.

Eight from South Africa

Sculpture and painting by eight contemporary South African artists. Tues.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. **978-ARTS**.

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BAY AREA REPORTER—December 14, 1995—PAGE 43

▼ Monday

Lisa Khone and Susan Papa in Desi del Valle's film, *Cruel*, at the Bay Area Multicultural Film Festival at Center for the Arts.



Monday 18

Niqé Black

Self-portraits in photography exploring womanhood, sexuality and the darker side, thru Dec. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. **394-7654**.

Cruel

Desi del Valle's film about love and loss at the Bay Area Multicultural Film Festival. 6pm. Center for the Arts, Yerba Buena Gardens. **346-8098**.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Scott Capurro. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933**.

Girls' Night Out

Ana Kokkinos' *Only the Brave and Girls' Shorts*. Call for times. UC Theatre, 2036 University Ave., Berkeley, (510) 843-6269.

Thomas Eric Stanton, Elliott Linwood

Stanton's "I'm Singing My Father's Dreams," Linwood's "Love is the Devil's Doormat," Tu-Sat. thru 1/16. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. **399-1439**.

Tendencies:

"New Art from Mexico City," eight young MC artists curated by Rubén Gallo. Tues.-Sun. thru 1/21. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. **771-7078**.

Oscar Wilde:

"A Man of Great Importance," 30 artists interpret Wilde. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/6. Terrain, 165 Jessie. **543-0656**.

Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. **431-3332**.

Lesbian & Gay Open Reading

Authors of poetry and prose share their work, free. 7:30pm. Modern Times, 888 Valencia. **828-9246**.

Noh Christmas Carol

Theatre of Yugen blends traditional Japanese dance/theatre with puppetry and masks to tell Scrooge story. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/30, call for times. \$12-15. Tonight at 8pm. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. **621-7978**.

Open All Night

Exhibit of photographs from Ken Miller's new collection: skinheads, addicts, whores, thru 1/13. Vision North Gallery, 2300 Polk. **474-4581**.

Orestes

Charles L. Mee Jr.'s adaptation of Euripides' tragedy, directed by Kenn Watt. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/23. 8pm. Nourse Auditorium, 275 Hayes. **243-9895**.

An Everyday Modernism

Exhibition of the work of residential architect William Wilson Wurster. Thru 1/11. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. **357-4000**.

Into the White

Artists who work with white, including David Colon, Daniel Nicoletta, Kent Taylor and Wise Fool Puppet Company. Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/27. Collision Galley, 417 14th St. **431-4074**.

A Karen Carpenter Xmas Concert

Karen, on the road, lands in Vegas. Katie Guthorn, Morey Goldstein, Meg Mackay, more. Thru 12/28. \$12-14. Tonight at 8pm. Transmission Theatre, 314 11th St. **(510) 762-2277**.

PWAC

People With AIDS Coalition, mtg. of Social and Outreach Committees, 7pm. 5928 Castro. **522-2341**.

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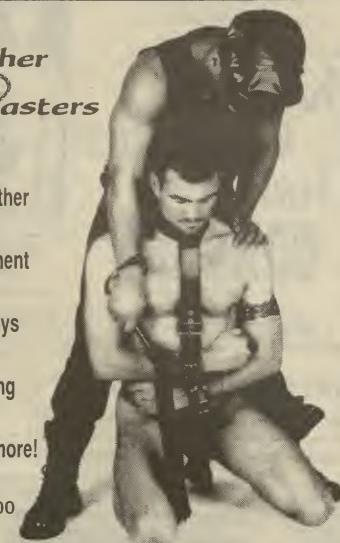
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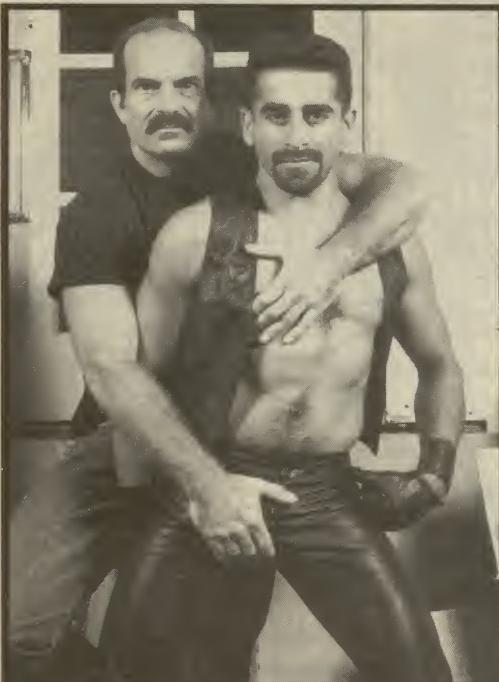
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BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

Season of Joy and Sorrow

As we plunge headlong into what is supposed to be a joyous season, more than a few of us are feeling less than merry as we remember some of the good friends we've recently lost. The perception on December 30, 1989, was that we were heading into the gay '90s, but at the decade's halfway mark, it's obvious that the '90s have been anything but gay.

I don't mean to be maudlin or to bring people down, but the deaths of so many great, kind, dedicated leathermen in such a short time has been devastating to our community and to others across the country. All these guys were friends of yours and mine.

Within the past two weeks alone in San Francisco we've lost four important leathermen: Michel Coin, a would-be leather titleholder; John Wood, a brilliant lay-out artist who worked his magic at both *Drummer* and the *B.A.R.*; my longtime friend Tucker Finn, a driving force behind several Shades Project benefits; and former emperor Michael Bowman, prominent leatherman fundraising activist and popular bar manager.

Seattle's leather community suffered a big loss recently with the departure of Evan Lozon, Mr. Washington State Leather 1991. I last saw him in Seattle in April, when I went there to judge a contest for the title he'd won earlier. He was such a charming leatherman. Evan loved San Francisco and San Francisco loved him.

Heading South, Richard Reynolds, long a driving force in San Diego's leather community, passed over recently, plunging San Diego's leather community into despair. Only a few days later, that vibrant community lost Mark Klein, former Mr. Southern California Drummer, who also succumbed to AIDS. Until he could no longer work, Mark was the manager of Wolf's.

A few days before that, Wayne Griffin, owner of the popular Wayne's Leather Rack in Los Angeles, also left us for that great leather pasture in the sky. Wayne outfitted more International Mr. Leathers than anyone in the biz, and even a few of the International Ms. Leathers. He was generous to a fault and donated tons of leather gear and gift certificates to fundraising causes.

Bill Gooch, Mr. Northern California Drummer 1991, left Sacramento's leather community in a state of sadness when he passed two weeks ago. The memorial ser-

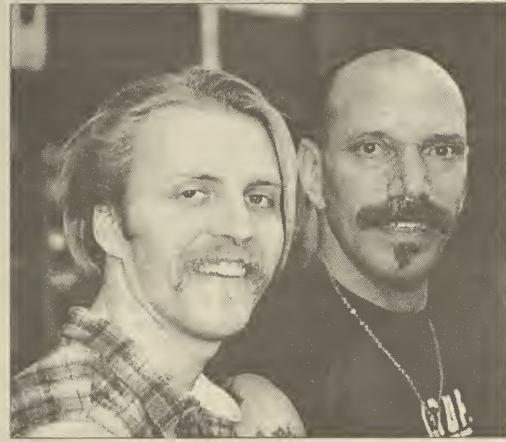


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Daddy Irwin Kane (R.) with his lover, Mark. Irwin emceed The 15 Association's benefit/beerburst at the Eagle last Sunday, December 10.

vice in his honor was held last Saturday, December 9. Bill was a no-nonsense leatherman who always got the job done. Respected throughout Northern California, Bill was as close to the true image of a Drummer man as you could get.

Each of the aforementioned guys wore their leathers and the Leather Pride pin with distinction. They contributed their time, energy and expertise generously to fundraising efforts and in doing so enhanced the image of the leather/SM community. Each was dedicated to helping others and added prideful luster to his chosen

lifestyle and to our tribe. It would be impossible for me to estimate exactly how much love and caring were expended by these guys. They worked the trenches, mostly behind the scenes, insuring that goals were met. These guys cared little for the spotlight. You didn't hear them boasting of "I did this" or "I did that" or "I raised this much." Their inner reward was the satisfaction of knowing they'd accomplished their tasks with distinction.

As we head into the holiday season, we can be guaranteed that our leather tribe will continue to distinguish itself. If only in the



Photo: Mr. Marcus

The Three Amigas (L. to R.): Anita the DJ; Lacey, the RushRiv bartender; and Claire, Queen of Tequila at the Pleasuredome Toy Party.



Photo: Mr. Marcus

The Three Amigos (L. to R.): Andy Rose, King of Leather for Life; Don ("Ho") Tse, Queen of the 38 Geary; and Omar Moseley, Mr. No. Calif. Drummer '95.

memory of the above good men, don't waiver, don't let up, and above all, be supportive of all those causes you cherish. I don't have to say every little bit counts. You know it does. So, enjoy the holiday season and in your quiet moments reflect on those we have lost and say a quiet prayer of thanks that they are no longer suffering.

Rain finally arrived in Northern California last Sunday, but it didn't dampen the spirits of those who attended the beerburst/fundraiser put on by The 15 Association. Daddy Irwin Kane's masterful voice introduced the hood contest, which featured some half-dozen participants. The two cate-

Events in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, Dec. 14

"Animal's Positive Christmas: A Viral Celebration" opens tonight and plays tomorrow night and next weekend at the John Lennon Studio (21 Dore Alley). Curtain's at 2000. Only \$10. Tonight, it's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Friday, Dec. 15

Blood Sisters, a documentary on lesbian leather/SM scene, produced and directed by Michelle Handelman, at SOMAR Gallery/Theatre (\$4/\$6). Don't miss this one, miss.

Free, anonymous HIV testing by the AIDS Health Project at 933 Harrison, 2200 to half-past midnight, upper level. Thanks, Brad!

Saturday, Dec. 16

Farewell party, roast and "shower" for Nick Varetakis, Eagle Patio, at 1500. It will be a howl!

Bay Area Bear & Cub Contest at Greg's Ballroom, with a beer bust at 1500 and the contest at 1700.

Bears of SF \$6 beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon. Bring an unwrapped toy for the SF Fire Dept. toy drive, sit on Santa's face, and have your photo taken with him. For \$5 dig in his bag for a gift!

Hood Party/beer bust at the Jackhammer from 1900 to 2200. Wear your hood and butch it up. Keep George happy/happier/happiest???

Sunday, Dec. 17

SF Eagle/Stormy Leather softball team hosts the beer bust (1500-1800, \$8) at the Eagle - of course. Ray Tilton will perform a never-before-seen drag number for his team and you!

Pacific Bears L/MC beer bust at Daddy's from 1200 to 1500, \$6, for their charity fund. They gave away thousand\$ last year so be there!

Dennis Tyler's fab buffet highlights the Xmas party at

The Cinch (Polk Street's butchest bar), beginning at 1600. Santa arrives 1800.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

Gruf magazine holiday party at the Lone Star Saloon, 1900-2200, benefiting the Gay Men's Chorus. With food, photos, beer bust, prizes, entertainment and a raffle. No price given for all this, but hey, it's for a good cause!

After Sam's party, Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison, with doors open from 2030 to 2330. No cologne! The bloodhounds can sniff any scent! Wear boots! Call 979-0242.

Thursday, Dec. 21

"Sit on Santa" Xmas Party at The Edge tonight, with Danny Williams emceeing for good boys & girls and bad boys & girls, 2030-2330. Dress in costume (elf, sugarplum fairy, regular fairy, etc.).

Saturday, Dec. 23

Red Hanky beer bust, 2000-2300, \$5, at the Jackhammer. Say hi to John and George! ▼

a taste of leather

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they'll miss IML?) Always like to hear good news for men of our tribe.

Item 3: Wanna be a model and earn \$100 an hour? Are you handsome and well-built? No porn stuff, just good physique photography. Call L. Davis Almand (441-8603). If you have the above attributes, you should qualify. Do it now! ▼

Photo Mr. Marcus

Nick Varetakis, Eagle assistant manager (L.), is counting the days before he departs for Nashville to be with his new domestic partner, Jim Bryant.

gories were best hood and most unusual hood. Obviously the winner of the best hood award was hooded, so I couldn't identify him. Joe Riga took the prize for most unusual hood.

Earlier on Sunday, the 49ers wreaked havoc on the upstart expansion Carolina team at the Clemson Stadium. Even better news, the hated Dallas Cowboys were put in their place by falling to the Philadelphia Eagles. I've lost all hope for the Oakland Raiders, who lost to the Pittsburgh Steelers Sunday afternoon, making Andy Rose and the football faithful at the Lone Star very happy. Indeed, the playoff picture is looking good. At least for the 'Niners. Eagle assistant manager Nick Varetakis (not assistant bartender as I mistakenly identified him in a photo caption two issues ago), endured the myriad shocked faces and questions of his customers all afternoon on Sunday.

Speaking of Nick, his fans are in a state of exasperation over his impending departure to Tennessee. By January 2 Nick will be heading east in his truck, with his cowboy hat and a home (read: love nest) in Nashville. Don't forget the farewell party, roast and shower for Nick on Saturday, De-

ember 16 on the Eagle patio around 1500. This one is going to be good, right Daddy Irwin? And think Walmart and Home Depot if you want to contribute to the "shower" part.

Item 1: It's been ages since I heard a peep out of the SF Leathernecks, but, finally, a communiqué from "Jim": the Leathernecks' 2nd Saturday of the month dungeon parties will move to a new, larger location effective immediately. It's a clean and sober environment for men 18 or older, and admittance is by invitation only. Send a SASE to SF Leathernecks, P.O. Box 14152, SF, CA 94114-0142 or call (510) 538-8490.

Item 2: Talk about a coup! The highly-acclaimed Los Angeles leather design team of Black Eagle Leathers (Dimitrius & Ricardo) has just signed a contract to design all the (leather) costumes for Tony Curtis' new movie, *The Continuing Adventures of Reptile Man*.

They just returned from London, where they showcased their great designs at the "Rubber Ball." Dimitrius and Ricardo will accompany Mr. Curtis to the May 1996 Cannes Film Festival for the film's premiere. (Does this mean

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SWEET LIPS

Christmas Party Blitz In Full Tilt

Well, another year is almost over, and, unfortunately, I have to report, dear readers, that I've been a bad girl all year. Yes, Suzie Swizzlestick, Greta, Chi-Chi, Tacky Hacky and a host of other forgettables have spent the past 12 months trying to prove they can party longer and harder than me. Of course, they were all wrong. I'm still the Big Martini in this town, and don't you forget it.

So now that I've declared myself the winner of the Gin Wars, I'd like to say to all my subjects that it's time to put aside our petty differences and get down to some real Party Action. There's plenty of it to go round, too, as this is the Xmas season. Alexis Miranda (will she ever hang it up?) and company will do an 11 p.m. show on Friday the 15th. On Saturday the 16th, "The Cows" will put on an "Old-Fashioned Christmas" with a buffet at 8:30. A glamorous show will follow at 10 p.m.

The party of parties, however, will be Kimo's spectacular Mele Kelikomaka buffet and show at 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 23. Everybody will be there. But before that, don't forget The Cinch's Christmas party on Sunday the 17th. A buffet by Dennis Canapaeas Tyler (4 p.m.), a visit from Santa (6 p.m.), and dancing (7 till 10 p.m.) are just a few of the inducements awaiting the curious



Photo: Greta Gross

Bob, Lips, and Ginger at Sweet Lips' birthday bash at Kimo's.

and the thirsty.

In other news, local writer Joseph R. Castel will present his new play, *The Black Cat*, about the life and wild times of Josè Sarria, on Saturday, December 16th at the Mission Cultural Center (2868 Mission Street at 7:30 p.m.). For more information, call 554-8436. Naturally, Josè will be there as the "narrator." The music is by Bobby Sunshine and the whole thing is directed by Hank Tavera.

Happy belated birthday greetings to Brett of The Cinch Saloon. Your birthday was on the 12th, I realize, honey, but I'm still trying to get my bearings straight after my

spectacular birthday party, of which I remember only a few small well-fermented fragments. Speaking of that monumentally important event in SF history, I'm happy to report that thanks to all who showed up and made donations, a little over \$1,100 was raised for the AIDS Memorial Grove.

Thanks also to Steve Suss and all the great people in Portland who showed me such a fabulous time last week. I'm sure the stains will come out. And Bobby Breau, your Christmas decorations at the Embers/Avenue are fantastic. Here's wishing one and all a very merry Christmas. ▼

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PERFORMERS EARN CASH WAGES AND TIPS. IF YOU HAVE IT, AND CAN DO IT, ASK FOR AN AUDITION.

MAIN SCREEN MOVIES CHANGE EVERY MONDAY.
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FREE LOCKERS (\$10.00 REFUNDABLE KEY DEPOSIT REQUIRED).
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HOLIDAY DEADLINE - CLASSIFIED & DISPLAY ADVERTISING
FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd - 12:00 NOON - FRIDAY DECEMBER 29th - 12:00 NOON

The Love Line
Local Gay Men & Women
Meet Someone New Today!
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\$1.98 per minute

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Downtown Hayward
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\$2.00 FOR 24 HOURS

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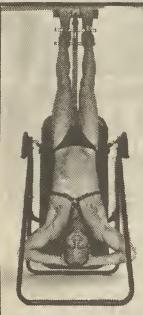
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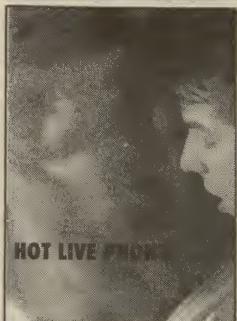
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Sensual massage in the buff

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 7 Days - By Appointment Only
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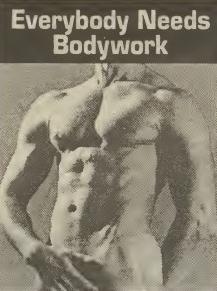


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 A Superb Massage by a Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing CMT. Non-sexual, In/out.

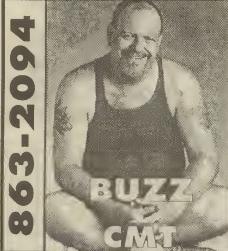
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 Deep Tissue Swedish
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 Have Table; In/Out; Will Travel
 Bay Area; Have Nice Blue Eyes,
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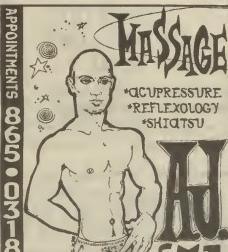
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SENSUOUS TOUCH
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 \$40/IN \$50/OUT

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 By Tall Well Built Bear
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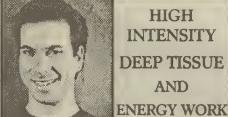


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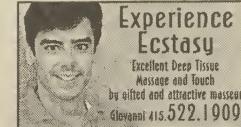
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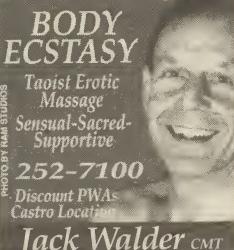
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E53

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MASSAGE BY LATIN STUD
 CMT * 621-5605

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Hot Nude Sensual Massage

by handsome 28; Sexy, Built

& Friendly. Jeff CMT 553-8804

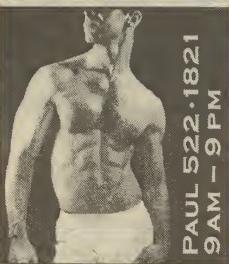
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MASSAGE

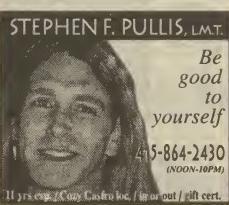
HOLIDAY DEADLINE - CLASSIFIED & DISPLAY ADVERTISING
FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd - 12:00 NOON • FRIDAY DECEMBER 29th - 12:00 NOON



998-3754



PAUL 522-1821
9AM - 9 PM



Be
good
to
yourself

415-864-2430
(NOON-RPM)

Holiday Specials 4 Asian, Youth,
Athlete XXX! * 708-3325

JOHNNY
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Athletic Massage • In/Out
Day/Eves. 715-6410 Cash MC V

In Walnut Creek, friendly, good-looking Italian guy with strong touch. Older, married welcome.
9AM-9PM (510) 933-1749

Dr. Green Look-a-like 23yo
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Blond Dude Sexy
Massage etc. 978-6318 Out

**SENSATIONAL
MALE MASSAGE**
By DAVID 457-5795
in Marin

Call Charles! Goodlooking!
GWM! \$35/hr incl \$45out! PWA-
Student! Discount! Older-Married!
etc! Welcome!

NUDE! EROTIC!
TOTAL! FULL-BODY!
Page #201-4656 Tel 928-6393

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Eastbay Comfort Warmth
Complete Sensual Massage
By Nude Masseur Slender
Bob \$25 1 hr (510) 843-4408



ian: 270-2548

DEEP



Photo: Larry Merkle 626-2267

Swedish Massage
Private Studio 15th/Dolores
\$45/60 min. \$60/90 min
Tim CMT 861-6554



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DEEP PLEASURE



Downy 415-864-3777

**Ecstasy of
BERLIN**

Handsome 27, with a passionate touch
for your unabashed pleasure.

Br/br 5'9" 150#/. 8" uncut
\$55/1hr. \$70/90 min.

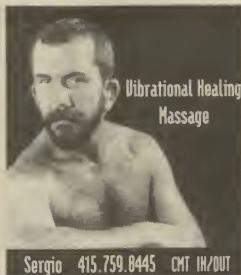
Sliding Scale for PWA

Phillip
487-1133

Happy Hour 11 to 5



MIKE
ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE
641-0780 VISA/MC



Vibrational Healing
Massage

Sergio 415.759.8445 CMT IN/OUT

MODELS/ESCORTS

Hungry? Deep Throat? Oral?
SKINHEADMEAT

26 yo*feet*in/out*627-1743

21 y/o Fresh from Brooklyn

ITALIAN MEAT

Built, Br/Bi * 241-1577 * Out

E50

18 Y/O ASIAN

Swimmer's body, Great definition,
very cute. Treat yourself to the
best Xmas ever. Satisfaction
guaranteed. Will Travel. Steve
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Hot FF Top w/Toys

Jack * 621-8252

E50

HOT REDHEAD

20 yo blue eyes, tall, lean,
clean-cut gdkg, friendly &
hung 9X6. Sean * 208-1082
24 Hrs, SF Out Only * \$100

E50

Hot Uncut Kinky Stud. Vets.
w/tows, 3-ways 2. Joe 621-8252

E50

Ho Ho 23yo Luvs 2 Blow!

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E50

6Ft 200 Lbs of Muscle On A

STRAIGHT GUY

Who likes to Swing.

Hung a thick 8" * 208-2527

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SKATER DUDE

Rad body tight athletic
Ex. Gdkg, 5'10" 7 1/2" Clean,
Fun. Let's tear it up! TJ 487-6276

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SF's Most Handsome Escort

5'9" 180#, Masculine 26 Y/O

COLLEGE BOY

Incredible Legs & Ass

Big & Uncut * 789-7320

E50

2 Weeks in SF: Chip

Very goodlooking, 8 1/2",
smooth, athletic, & friendly
\$100 In/\$120 Out * 257-9382

E50

GOLDEN BOY

Smooth, slim, slender, young
Asian. Sean. 635-8562. \$80
Out Calls Only

E50

100% SMOOTH

Hard Muscle, Shaved Head
NO BODY HAIR
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BIG DICK * 560-5119

MILKMAN

Hndsome, Muscular Italian

11" STIFF

BIG DICK - 560-5119

E50

BASKETBALL PLAYER

Hot 20yo, 6'2", 180# red blue
gdkg all-American fun & hung

9x6 SEAN 208-1082

24hrs SF out only. \$100

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Mr Brown Wears A Big

BROWN HANKY

27yo In/Out 627-1743

E50

Versatile Hot Boy 29

SEXY SOLID & TRIM

5'10", 150#, Hung 8X6"

Jake Page 709-0338 \$100

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COMPLETE MASSAGE

by Young Asian

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Sensual Healing Erotic

Massage by Handsome/Hung

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Older & Large Men Welcome

Any Race * 773-9130 * Kory

E50

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With a Holistic Massage

By Kurt \$45 in/\$55 out 90min.

Non-sexual 824-9969

E50

Asian Therapeutic Massage out-

call. S.J.-Miki (408) 787-0667

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ORAL SLAVE

Hot Mouth - Deep Throat

Available Evenings & Weekends

Gdkg, Blnd, 5'11", 165, 34, \$50

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BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay

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5'11" 150# 8"Uncut, 30 Y/O

Versatile Athletic Experienced

I/O, 9AM-9PM DAVE 957-0111

Daytime Discount Available

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Leather Tit J/O Spank 863-3862

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36 yo, Brn/Brn, 6'2", 175 Lbs.

Hot, Hung, Ready to Come!

"JOHN" * (510) 595-0686

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BLACKTOP

Safe * Sane * Respectful

8" * Leather * Dominant

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Well Hung Blk Top 245-6911

E50

\$150 Porno Star * 292-7115

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Professional Sensual WM

AFFECTIONATE

ClnCut 5'7, 145#, Smooth

Page: Mark (415) 406-6130 VM

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THE POWERFUL MASTER in Town

HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT

Experienced, Most Scenes

Fully Stocked Private Playroom

TOM 487-1296

DADDY'S BOY

20, 5'6", 125#, Smooth, Tight

body & not too big to go

over your knee. Very good

looking, friendly and hung.

\$150 Out * 527-0083

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Hot, Handsome Stud

THE 9X7 CLUB

Experience The Total Package

Nice Body Great Personality.

Dominate Top. 24hrs.

Tony (415) 861-SEXX \$85.00

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HOLIDAY DEADLINE - CLASSIFIED & DISPLAY ADVERTISING
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S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow- my specialty.
 6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
 master into all aspects &
 degrees of leatherplay.
 S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunchy.
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BUTCH LOOK

tall muscular
 big hairy pecs
 handsome hung 9
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FRAT MAN

Masculine, Horse-Hung Jock
 Athletic Build • Friendly
 Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
 Craig 415-861-7399 \$80

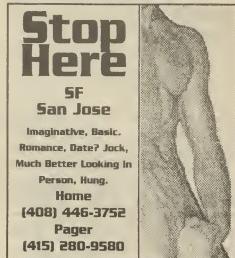
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 BLONDE
 5'9" 155 lbs toned, muscular
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EXOTIC EROTIC MALES!
GAY/BI/STRAIGHT COUPLES/ALLSCENES DIVERSE TYPES
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(Entire Bay Area)

Sensual, Erotic Sex Stud
WAY HOT TOP
 Smooth, Tight, Muscular Bod
 ** Exceptional/Good Looks **
 24 yo, 6', 175#, Masc. & Hung
 Page Nick * 678-1153

Handsome, Muscular Italian
LONG N STIFF
 24 HRS * 560-5119



Handsome, Muscular Italian
11" THICK
 I Kick Back-Tony* 560-5119

EROTIC BLOND
 6'1" 32 yo, lean & hot top
 24 Hrs • 263-6726, Max !!!

24-HOUR BEAUTY!!!
 Versatile, romantic stud! Includes
 massage! A Gifted soul.
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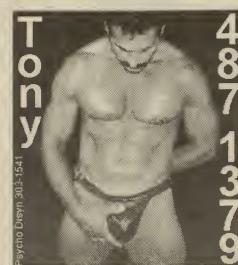
HOT 23 Y/O BOY
 Friendly, Versatile 'n Tight
 Call C.J.(415) 245-1597 In/Out



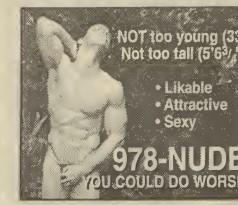
COMPETITIVE BODYBUILDER
 24 yo Blond Hunk Tough,
 Handsome Friendly, Huge!
 Dale 522-8773

BODYBUILDER
 HOT, HANDSOME
 HARD STRONG HUNG
 STUD
 CALL: STEVE * 280-3406

TRUE TO SIZE
 10 1/2 By 7"
 520-3820
 Brandon*303-2782*In/Out*24 Hr
HOT BLONDE!!
 Open To All Safe Desires!



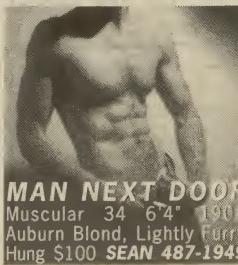
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 BEAUTIFULLY BUFFED
 Rock Hard
 Sensitive, Gifted Touch
SWEDISH SHATSU
 626-7684, Page 220-6329



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 in Winter time With a
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 Eduardo Pgr (415) 527-5334

GERMAN LESSONS
 8X6 * 675-9911

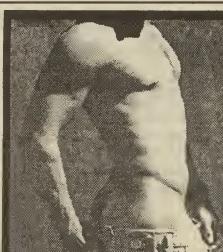
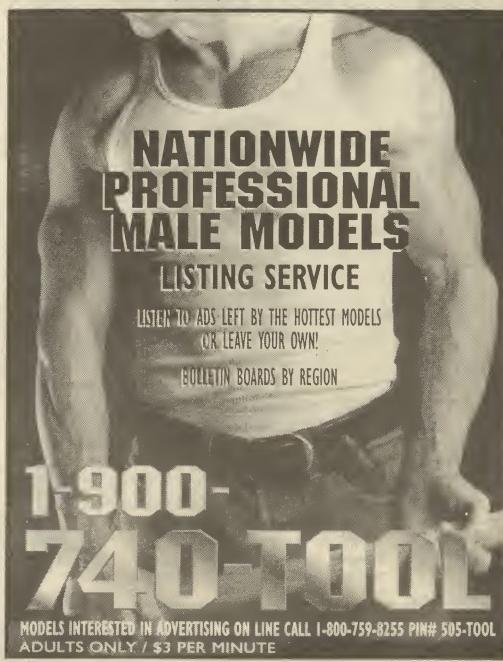


MAN NEXT DOOR
 Muscular 34 6'4" 190lb
 Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
 Hung \$100 **SEAN 487-1949**



HUNG XTRA THICK FALCON MODEL TOM CHASE
 Serious bodybuilder: 5'10",
 Dark Brown hair and eyes,
 clean-shaven, very goodlooking,
 170 Lbs. Solid muscle, smooth
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 27 y/o Page me at
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SAN JOSE
MASCULINE, HUNG JOCK
 Athletic Build - Friendly
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